

THE North-China Herald

AND
SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

Vol. LXIV., No. 1714.

SHANGHAI, JUNE 13, 1900.

PRICE, Tls. 12 P AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England	May 11	Hankow	June 9
San Francisco	11	Yokohama	2
Hongkong	June 9	Nagasaki	5
Tientsin	8	Foochow	10

BIRTHS.

On the 6th of June, 1900, at Chinkiang, the wife of J. M. COLLAGO, I.M. Customs, of a son.

At Shanghai, on the 7th of June, the wife of W. A. C. PLATT, of a son.

DEATHS.

On the 28th of January, 1900, at the General Hospital, Singapore, age 58 years, MORTEN JENSON, late master of Marty's s.s. *Haeting*, and formerly of s.s. *Cass*.

On the 29th of April, 1900, at Ronneby, Sweden, A. W. KINDBLAD, aged 59 years, late of I.M. Customs.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer		Wind.	Hygrometer.		Thermometer in shade.	Initials.
	9 A.M.	Attached Therm.		Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.		
Jun 5	29.91	73.7	N.E.	72.5	67.5	75.0	J.H.S.
6	29.92	76.0	S.E.	75.5	68.5	76.0	"
7	29.87	75.1	S.W.	74.6	69.0	80.0	"
8	29.86	75.5	South	74.0	73.0	79.0	"
9	29.84	76.0	"	75.5	74.0	83.0	"
10	29.74	73.0	North	73.0	71.5	78.0	"
11	29.82	73.0	S.E.	73.0	68.5	74.0	"
12	29.88	74.0	East	74.0	69.5	75.0	"
13	29.94	73.0	S.E.	73.0	72.0	75.0	"

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b, blue sky; c, clouds; f, fog; h, hail; l, lightning; m, misty (hazy); o, overcast (dull); r, rain; s, snow; t, thunder; z, calm. Force from 1 to 12, estimated.

The "North China Herald" is partly set up by the Linotype Composing Machine.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1900.

THE CRISIS IN THE NORTH.

THE news that we published in this morning's issue of the "North-China Daily News," that the home Governments have decided to patch up the trouble in the North, not to enter into any serious conflict with the present Government of China, but merely to use force enough to protect foreigners in China and repress disturbances, seems to indicate such extraordinary weakness that it has been received, and naturally so, with general incredulity. No more soldiers are to be landed in China, the protection and repression being left in the hands of the naval officers now marching on Peking and the blue-jackets and marines under their command; and the reparation to be made by China for the destruction of foreign lives and property is to be settled diplomatically at home.

It is not possible that Sir Claude Macdonald had any idea that this was the turn affairs would take when he telegraphed his manifesto for publication the other day. His statements, which we all know to be true, that the Boxer movement is anti-foreign, and is encouraged by the Throne which does not show any intention to summarily suppress the Boxers was equivalent to a declaration of hostilities. Now comes, on authority which we cannot but regard as credible, the news that all this is to be smoothed over. Apologies will be made and an indemnity promised, the dead missionaries, engineers, and ladies will be buried, and neat crosses erected over their remains, the railways will be restored and the stations rebuilt, the survivors of that terrible march from Paotingfu to Tientsin will be sent home with a small solatium, their whole future lives affected by the sufferings they have undergone, and everything will go on

again for a few months in the same bad old way.

Odious as this patching-up, if the news is well-founded, will be, there are several reasons why it should commend itself to the Foreign Offices of the West. If the Powers decided to repress the Empress Dowager and her Government as being the supporters of the Boxers, they could not refuse the landing in China of a considerable Russian force, the Russians being now nearest to Peking. The Japanese would then doubtless demand to be allowed to land at least as large a force, which is all ready for the purpose, and the presence of a large Russian and a large Japanese force at Peking might easily result in the creation of more disorder than exists there at present. Even if they worked together harmoniously, no one can tell how long their presence might be required in China. When forces from other countries followed them, the chances of friction would increase, and it would probably be found necessary to confide the pacification of various provinces to different forces, which would in the end be very like that partition of China which we are all of us anxious to postpone as long as possible. As we have said before, too, to destroy a dynasty in China is not a light matter; how long the chaos would last, and what uprisings would occur before a new Government were firmly established, nobody could tell; and meanwhile trade, for which we are here, would be stopped, and hundreds if not thousands of defenceless foreigners in the interior would be in imminent danger.

Arguments such as these have no doubt influenced the Foreign Offices of the West, if the news that the trouble is to be patched up is true; and it may possibly be that this is the way in which Russia is carrying out her alleged promise not to desert the Empress Dowager. But these are the counsels of pusillanimity and should be rejected altogether. This patching-up process would but skin and film the ulcer o'er; it is much too deep-seated for this treatment to be of any permanent value. The only chance to save China is for the Powers in concert to take really strong measures to suppress the Empress Dowager and her Government altogether; to put Kuang Hsi, if he is still alive, on the throne, and confirm in their posts, with foreign advisers, the Viceroy and Governors who will accept, as most of them no doubt would, the new dispensation. We should strengthen the Viceroy of the Yangtze provinces, as Mr. Drummond suggested in his recent able letter, with an English force. The railways, building and built, should be protected by foreign guards, as the Russian railways in Manchuria are, and the instructions to the officers should be

that they are to preserve order at any cost. The Chinese people as a whole are essentially orderly and law-abiding, and would welcome any power that preserved order, and a little severity at first would save thousands, if not millions of lives. To patch up the present trouble is merely to put off the catastrophe, not to prevent it. The task before the Foreign Powers is one that demands resolution. It is a task whose coming should have been foreseen; now that it is on us it should be faced boldly, as we all hope it will be; to evade it will be cowardly, and the evasion will only be followed before long by a worse crisis.

Summary of News.

THE French mail of the 5th of May arrived here on the 7th instant by the M.M.S. *Laos*.

THE English mail of the 11th of May arrived here on the 11th instant by the P. & O. S. *Bengal*.

THE American mail of the 19th of May arrived here to-day by the T.K.K.S. *America Maru*.

A MAIL leaves to-morrow for Europe by the M.M.S. *Indus*.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS' EXCLUSIVE SERVICE.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

London, 6th June.

THE ADVANCE ON PRETORIA.

The advance of Lord Roberts on Pretoria began at daybreak on the 4th (Monday). After marching ten miles to the Six-mile Spruit he encountered a stubborn resistance, but eventually the Boers were driven back towards Pretoria. Nightfall prevented pursuit, and the British bivouacked on the ground gained.

Later.

THE OCCUPATION OF PRETORIA.

Lord Roberts made a triumphal entry into the capital of the Transvaal at two in the afternoon. Details are not yet received.

THE RECEIPT OF THE NEWS.

The whole Empire is in a state of enthusiasm at the capture of Pretoria. The scenes in London and elsewhere are similar to those when the news of the relief of Mafeking was received.

ANXIETY ABOUT ASHANTI.

The absence of news from Ashanti is causing anxiety. Carter with three hundred troops has left Fumsu to try and meet the Governor.

Later.

A DISASTER IN ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

The thirteenth battalion of the Imperial Yeomanry has been over-

whelmed by Boers near Lindley. Lord Methuen made a magnificent march to rescue them, but was too late.

MORE DETAILS FROM PRETORIA.

Lord Roberts entered Pretoria on the 5th (Tuesday). The surrender was unconditional. The Boers who had been fighting us retreated through the town. Mrs. Botha and Mrs. Kruger are both in Pretoria. The majority of the British prisoners are still at Waterval.

The chief civil official met Lord Roberts early in the morning and stated his wish to surrender the town. A few British prisoners have been removed, but there are over a hundred officers in Pretoria.

Later.

BADEN-POWELL AT WORK AGAIN.

General Baden-Powell has joined General Hunter at Lichtenburg.

THE DISASTER NEAR LINDLEY.

The Thirteenth Yeomanry battalion consisted of three Irish Companies under Colonel Spragge, and apparently the majority surrendered in the belief that General Rundle's operations had relieved them.

A GALLANT ACTION AND SPLENDID MARCH.

Lord Roberts reports that General Methuen attacked and completely routed between 2,000 and 3,000 Boers after a running fight of five hours. His force had marched previously 44 miles in 25 hours.

London, 7th June.

ENCIRCLING THE BOERS IN THE ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

General Brabant has twice routed the Boers north of Ficksburg. The enemy is now near Bethlehem, and the British are closing round them.

Later.

COMMUNICATION INTERRUPTED.

Telegrams from South Africa are delayed, the cable being broken. Nothing is known yet about the release of the prisoners or the whereabouts of Botha's forces.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NEW COLONIES.

The "Times" foreshadows the appointment of Lord Roberts as Military Governor, with Milner subsequently as Administrator of the new territories.

London, 8th June.

THE PRISONERS AT PRETORIA.

Reuter's correspondent at Lorenzo Marques telegraphs on the 7th inst. that the Boers are moving their prisoners to Nooitgedacht, a most unhealthy spot, and one thousand are already there. The Boers are meanwhile making a stand at Hatherley to gain time.

THE TROUBLE IN NORTH CHINA.

Reuter learns that there is no question at present of political action by the Powers in China.

The Ministers, Admirals, and Consuls are consulting with reference to the measures to be taken to protect life and property.

There is no question of any one Power acting independently of the others.

RUSSIAN REINFORCEMENTS.

Two thousand Russians with stores left Odessa during May for the Orient, and six more transports are preparing.

Later.

BRAVE WORDS.

President Krüger has been interviewed by a correspondent of the "Daily Express" at Machadodorp. He said that the burghers will never surrender as long as 500 armed men remain in the country. The government is still effective and he will not leave the country. The real struggle has only now begun.

IN THE WEST OF THE TRANSVAAL.

Colonel Plumer has occupied Zeerust unopposed. General Baden-Powell is administering the Malmani and Zeerust districts.

THE CASUALTIES AMONG THE YEOMANRY.

The casualties among the Thirtieth Yeomanry at Lindley on the 1st inst. were: killed, Captain Keith, Sir John Power, and sixteen troopers; wounded, Earl Longford, three officers, and twenty-five troopers.

PRINCE KANIN AT VIENNA.

Prince Kotohito has reached Vienna. The Archduke Franz Ferdinand (the heir to the throne) met him and escorted him to the Hofburg, where the Emperor received him and gave him a banquet.

London, 9th June.

THE FUTURE OF OUR NEW TERRITORIES.

Mr. Campbell-Bannerman at Glasgow said that the conquered States must belong to the Empire, but after securing our Imperial power, we must aim at conciliation, and grant as early as possible such rights of autonomy as would content other colonies.

ON THE NATAL SIDE.

General Buller has captured positions whose possession he thinks renders the Boers' position at Laing's Nek untenable.

THE CRISIS IN THE NORTH.

A Washington dispatch says that the diplomatists at Peking have decided to jointly demand the suppression of the Boxers by the Empress Dowager, otherwise the Powers will act.

THE NEW BRITISH FLAGSHIP.

H. M. S. Goliath has sailed from Gibraltar to China.

THE EXCLUSION OF JAPANESE FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the Dominion House of Commons deprecated the adoption of the British Columbian law preventing the influx of Japanese.

He referred to possible complications in China, and said that it would be unwise to do anything to jeopardise Japan's friendship for Great Britain.

London, 10th June.

RUSSIA'S INTENDED ACTION IN CHINA.

Reuter's correspondent at St. Petersburg wires that Russia has decided to take immediate military action to repress the anti-foreign movement in China, but without dissociating herself from the joint action of the Powers.

COMMUNICATION CUT BY THE BOERS.

General Kelly-Kenny telegraphs from Bloemfontein that the telegraph has been cut at Roodeval, northward of Kroonstad, by a party of Boers estimated at 2,000 strong with six guns. General Kelly-Kenny is sending strong reinforcements.

PRINCE KANIN AT VIENNA.

Prince Kotohito was present at the Emperor's review of the troops at Vienna.

London, 11th June.

LORD ROBERTS'S COMMUNICATIONS.

General Forestier-Walker telegraphs from Capetown on the 10th that natives report that Boers in three columns were near Honningsbush early on the 9th.

The railway between America and Roodeval stations is almost completely destroyed.

ON THE NATAL SIDE.

The Boers have curtly refused General Buller's proposals for their surrender.

THE GRAND PRIZ.

The following is the result:—

Semendria	1
Love Grass	2
Iago	3

Later.

THE MEASURED PROGRESS OF GENERAL BULLER.

General Buller's force is encamped close to the Transvaal and Orange River Colony boundary. It met with opposition after a march of eight miles. The Boers retreated, when heavy ordnance came into action, the enemy making another stand on a ridge ahead of Gansvlei.

London, 12th June.

FIGHTING IN ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

It is officially announced that in the fighting at Roodeval on the 7th instant, seventeen of the Fourth Derbyshires were killed, seventy-six wounded and the remainder taken prisoners. There is no further explanation.

The killed include Colonel Baird Douglas and Lieut. Horley; wounded, Colonel Wilkinson and four other officers.

Lord Methuen, with the bulk of his division, was fighting early on the 8th inst. ten miles south of Heilbron.

The dispatch leaves everything unexplained.

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS TO THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

Hongkong, 10th June.

BRITISH SOLDIERS FOR THE NORTH.

Three companies of the Welsh Fusiliers have been ordered to mobilise, and be ready to leave for the North, if required.

Tientsin, 6th June.

THE TROUBLE IN THE NORTH.

An attempt to-day to get a train through to Peking failed. The Lofa station is burnt. All intercourse with the capital has been stopped since yesterday (Tuesday).

We have 600 troops here and 6 guns, and the Chinese are panic-stricken.

Tientsin, 7th June.

The train service is still failing; the Chinese cannot clear the line of the Boxers.

The Tsungli Yamén refuse our forces permission to go by rail, and they may go by boat.

A Courier mail service is being tried; the telegraph is working still.

More troops and guns are being landed.

General Nieh had a fight with the Boxers on Friday at Yangtsun.

Tientsin, 8th June.

THE CRISIS IN THE NORTH.

Paotingfu is burning.

The railway service with Peking is finally stopped.

Matters are increasingly serious.

The English missionaries at Peking have taken refuge in the Legation.

The Edict of Wednesday (the 6th) encourages the Boxers.

Later.

TUNGCHOW BURNED.

Five thousand Russians are expected to land.

Tungchow is burnt; the missionaries are safe.

Tientsin, 9th June.

AT PEKING.

Affairs at the capital are in a very serious and critical position, but it is not possible to telegraph details.

Tientsin, 10th June.

FOREIGN TROOPS MOVING.

Eight hundred troops, chiefly British, are forcing their way to Peking. The train has just left with machine guns mounted, and with sleepers to repair the line.

Admiral Seymour and the American commander are leading the force.

The Russians, Japanese, and French, and more British are following in a second train.

More troops are landing.

There is great satisfaction here, as this clinches matters.

Tientsin, 11th June.

THE EXPEDITION TO PEKING.

The troops have reached Lofa.

Progress is slow owing to the necessity of repairing the bridges.

Some American marines returned to-day for more provisions and left again with five days' supplies.

Two hundred and seventy-five Russians and French left at noon to-day to join the column.

The telegraph to Peking ceased working yesterday (Sunday) at two p.m.

Tientsin, 12th June.

THE CRISIS IN THE NORTH.

The column has just passed Langfang, having had an encounter last night with the Boxers there. They shot about fifty Boxers, who were damaging the line as much as possible.

All the telegraph poles are down.

The progress of the column is slow, and water is scarce.

6.30 p.m.

A letter just through from the capital states that the Grand Stand was burnt on Saturday.

All were safe on Sunday.

A dispatch by wire from Paoting-fu yesterday says that the foreigners there are still safe but the situation is threatening.

(FROM OUR NATIVE CORRESPONDENT.)

Peking, 8th June.

Encouraged by their successes and the popularity of the movement, the leaders of the Iho-Ch'uan have, it is reported, decided to hold all the cities and towns which they have captured, thereby becoming actual rebels against the Government. The latest report is that they have killed the sub-prefect of Ch'ochou, an important city near Peking, and garrisoned the place against all comers. General Nieh's Chihli corps are mutinous and many have declared their sympathy with the Iho-Ch'uan.

THE MUDDLED GOVERNMENT.

Peking, 9th June.

The Iho-Ch'uan crisis has become so acute and the Government is at such a loss to find a man able to deal with the society-men that, at a meeting of the Grand Council early this morning, Jung Lu suggested that Li Hung-chang be sent for to take over the Chihli Viceroyalty, the present Viceroy, Yü Lu, having on Sunday tendered his resignation. Yü Lu has declared that he is forced to do this because all his measures for the suppression of the Iho-Ch'uan had been checkmated by Wang Pei-yu, Governor of the Imperial Prefecture (Peking and dependencies), who is a well-known chief of the Iho-Ch'uan himself and who was, the other day, promoted from a Censor to his present post by the Empress Dowager on that very account, in order to get the society moulded for the Empress Dowager's own future purposes. In opposition to Jung Lu's recommenda-

tion, Kang Yi strongly suggested the appointment of his friend, the notorious Li Ping-heng, to take Yü Lu's place in Tientsin, the upshot of the council being that the question is in abeyance and Yü Lu's resignation is not accepted.

The whole country is ablaze now and there seems to be no present means of restoring order. The Iho-Ch'uan now hold Shenchou, Chochou, and several other cities near Peking whilst their emissaries are spreading the incendiary's torch wherever they can get the chance. A great rebellion is at hand, for the Iho-Ch'uans have all the troops as allies, which would not have been the case had the government more decision.

Peking, 9th June.

The Decree of 6th inst., censuring the Chihli troops for attacking the people, had reference to a battle between General Nieh's corps and a large Iho-Ch'uan army on the 4th inst., in which the society men were defeated with a loss of 480 men, several of whom were leaders from Shantung. Kang Yi complained to the Empress Dowager of this on the strength of a petition he had received, and the result has been a special censure strongly reprimanding General Nieh and ordering him to go back to Lutai headquarters near Kaiping colliery. This has greatly encouraged the society-men and no General cares now to act against the rioters for fear of bringing down punishment on himself and his officers. Three of General Nieh's officers are under arrest for having fought the Iho-Ch'uans and may have to suffer decapitation. General Tung Fushiang volunteered this morning to stop all further entrance of foreign troops into Peking with his own corps (Kansu) alone. It is nearly 25,000 strong, one half of whom are well provided with magazine rifles and machine guns and the other with two-men gingals, lances, swords, and bucklers. Jung Lu is disgusted with the turn of affairs and has asked for sick-leave as his advice is never taken. Prince Ching, Prince Tuan, Kang Yi, and Chao Shu-ch'iao rule the Empress Dowager now and control her policy. The Heir-Apparent has now two Iho-Chuan "Masters" instructing him in their arts and system of fighting. He has four other young Princes to keep him company. Chao Shu-ch'iao who was appointed by the Decree of 6th inst. to scatter the society-men and exhort them to return to their homes, returned to Peking yesterday reporting that he could not get in touch with any responsible leaders of the Iho-Ch'uan and his only alternative was to cause copies of the Decree in question to be posted in every town and city of the Peking Prefecture and to distribute them to any one who would take them. Li Ping-heng telegraphed to the Grand Council to-day asking to be allowed to return to Peking to fight the foreigners. This is supposed to be Kang Yi's doing. The ostensible chief leader of the Iho-Ch'uans is a man named Han but the real head is the Heir-apparent's father, Prince Tuan, who controls their movements from Peking.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chungking, 10th June

FRENCH RESIDENTS EVACUATING YUNNAN.

I have received the following telegram from Yunnanfu, and have been requested to forward it to the "North-China Daily News":—

"In consequence of a telegram from the French Minister, the French

missionaries and officials are leaving immediately. A crisis seems imminent. The French Consul advises all (foreigners) to leave."

(FROM OUR NATIVE CORRESPONDENT.)

Nanking, 11th June.

CHINESE DEFENCE OF THE YANGTZE VALLEY.

Viceroy Liu has received telegraphic instructions from Peking to be prepared to resist by force British warships entering the Yangtze in large numbers as it is feared that as soon as it is learnt that Russia will help China, Great Britain will at once seize the Yangtze Valley. A corps of 10,000 foreign-drilled troops have also been requisitioned from Viceroy Liu to proceed overland to the North. Viceroy Chang Chih-tung of Wuchang has also been instructed to act in conjunction with Viceroy Liu for the defence of the Yangtze Valley.

THE CRISIS IN PEKING.**OFFICIAL TELEGRAM.**

Mr. Pelham Warren, H. B. M.'s Consul-General, received on Saturday the following important telegram from Sir Claude Macdonald:—

"The movement against foreigners has been allowed to grow to such an extent that it has resulted in the burning of railway stations, and interruption of railway communication for five days. Two British missionaries and several foreigners have been murdered in the district near Peking; in the country round, numbers of converts have been murdered and pillaged and the chapels destroyed, while in the capital itself British missionaries have been compelled to leave their houses and take refuge in the Legation, which is defended by 75 marines.

"The Chinese Government has been affected by these events so far as to send high officials to parley with the Boxers, but it does not show any intention to summarily suppress them. Probably it still has power to do so, but the Throne is strongly influenced by sympathy with the movement, and the spirit of the troops is doubtful. All well up to the present."

THE Director of Sicawei Observatory reports: Wednesday, 6th June, 10 a.m.—State of the atmosphere on the 5th.—The maximum in Japan moves away to the E. of Saghalien Island. A secondary maximum enveloping Shantung. The depression of the Pacific deepens and a typhoon to the S.E. of the Loochoos is signalled at noon. Fine weather at Shanghai. Winds shifting to the N. in the S. State on the morning of the 6th.—Glass continually falling at Shanghai. Calm and fine weather. A cablegram from Manila confirms the existence of a typhoon.—Thursday, 7th June, 10 a.m.—State of the atmosphere on the 6th.—One part of the depression moves away E.N.E. wards below Japan. Another centre lies to the S. of Formosa. Changeable winds on the N. coast. N. to N.E. breezes in

the S. Fair weather at Shanghai—State on the morning of the 7th.—Weather becoming overcast but remaining rather fine. Glass rising again and exceeding the average.—Friday, 8th June, 10 a.m.—State of the atmosphere on the 7th.—The depression to the S. of Formosa seems to be filling up on the spot. High readings over Saghalin Island, Japan, and Manchuria; low pressures over N. China—State on the morning of the 8th.—Cloudy weather. S.S.E. winds increasing in intensity. Glass continuing to rise slowly.—Saturday, 9th June, 10 a.m.—State of the atmosphere on the 8th.—System of high readings over N. Japan and S. Saghalin Island. Barometer exceeding mean almost everywhere. Fresh S.E. breezes over the Yellow Sea; light and changeable winds in the S. Fine weather at Shanghai.—State on the morning of the 9th.—Overcast but rather fine weather at Shanghai. Glass falling slowly. Sunday, 10th June, 10 a.m.—State of the atmosphere on the 9th.—Barometric maximum over E. Japan. Pressures levelling over almost the whole of China. Thunderstorm in the evening at Shanghai and the neighbourhood.—State on the morning of the 10th.—Dull weather with intermittent rain. Glass falling fitfully.—Monday, 11th June, 10 a.m.—State of the atmosphere on the 10th.—Barometric maximum over Yezo. Pressure levelling between China and Japan. Light minimum to the N. of the Gulf of Pechili. Rainy day at Shanghai.—State on the morning of the 11th.—Overcast weather, but clearing up gradually. Glass rising slowly.—Tuesday, 12th June, 10 a.m.—State of the atmosphere on the 11th.—Pressure rising in the Yangtze Valley while falling in N. China and Japan. Overcast but rather fine weather at Shanghai. Moderate and changeable winds everywhere.—State on the morning of the 12th.—Glass still rising slowly. Overcast and calm weather.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

1900.

	Fabr.	Thermometer.		Rainfall in inches.
		Min.	Max.	
June 6	65°	63°	79°	0
" 7	67°	65°	79°	0
" 8	70°	66°	85°	0
" 9	73°	68°	89°	0.63
" 10	71°	68°	82°	1.34
" 11	68°	65°	75°	0.19
" 12	67°	65°	75°	0.56

1899.

	Fabr.	Thermometer.		Rainfall in inches.
		Min.	Max.	
June 6	65°	61°	82°	1
" 7	68°	65°	78°	2
" 8	67°	62°	78°	3
" 9	66°	60°	85°	8
" 10	69°	60°	91°	2
" 11	71°	60°	89°	3
" 12	69°	60°	83°	5

It is stated that President McKinley has appointed the Rev. J. R. Hykes Vice-Consul-General of the United States at Shanghai.

We had no later news from the North on Wednesday, except that the British Minister is sending his family to Chefoo.

It has been stated privately in Hongkong on good authority though not officially, that over 11,000 troops intended for South Africa have been diverted at Malta to China.

A HARBOUR Notification has been issued stating that Amoy and Swatow are infected ports.

TELEGRAPHIC news has been received from native sources at Tientsin stating that on the 6th instant a skirmish occurred outside the native city between a party of supposed Boxers and a combined force of Russian, French, and Japanese marines resulting in the defeat of the former who

left some twenty odd men dead on the field. It is further stated that on that day there were 17 Russian and French vessels at Taku.

A TELEGRAM received from the British Legation at Peking, dated noon on Thursday says that the forces landed to date were:—

British	308
Americans	156
French	141
Russians	105
Japanese	95
Germans	80
Italians	80

Total...965

THE following is the list of stations on the railway from Tientsin to Peking, with the distance in miles from Tientsin:—

	Miles.
Tientsin	0
Peitsang	8.61
Yangtsun	17.88
Lofa	31.09
Langfang	40.40
Anting	53.64
Huangtsun	64.47
Fengtai	74.88
Peking	79.68

DISPATCHES received from Tientsin state that Brigadier-General Yang, who was ambushed and murdered by Boxers at Laishui near Paoingfu recently, while en route to investigate a case of reported murder of Christians at Kaoli, is to be "cashiered for disobedience of orders, in that he had been ordered 'to investigate' and not to come to blows with the mob." This was the same officer whom our correspondent at Tientsin in his last letter eulogised as a "fine old soldier." By rights Brigadier-General Yang's family should have been compensated by a grant of money and posthumous honours for him for having died doing his duty, but for the fact that he had "disobeyed orders." That the Boxers are secretly favoured by the powers that be in Peking has been again and again insisted upon in these columns and what clearer proof can there be of this than this censure of Brigadier Yang?

TIENSIN merchants here have received telegraphic instructions from their head offices in the North to delay sending goods up to Tientsin, "as there is no knowing to what extremities the Boxers will proceed, while the flow of foreign troops into the port shows that the foreign Powers are determined to suppress the rioters if the Imperial Government remains quiescent." Other telegrams state that many Chinese officials are removing their families from Peking and Tientsin into the interior, which seems to show that in official circles the crisis is deemed to be very serious and that a peaceful solution is almost despaired of. Finally, a telegram has been received stating that four Cossacks were killed in a fight with Boxes just outside Peking on the 3rd inst., and that the Russian Minister had threatened to bring into Peking a force of 2,000 cossacks to preserve the peace.

THE "Ostasiatische Lloyd" circulated on Sunday the following Extra:—

Tientsin, 10th June.

The Boxers are now at Peking. It is reported, that Chinese soldiers have attacked the electric railway station at Machiapu. The labourers have fled. The Railway Traffic is out of order and entirely suspended. It is further reported that the Mission at Tungchow has been totally destroyed by fire, also the Yangtsun railway bridge. Generals Nieh's and Tung's troops have been recalled. All business at Tientsin is stopped owing to the excitement caused by the outbreak of the rebellion.

From Tsingtao we learn, that besides the 50 marines who have gone from there to Peking, 25 men have been sent to Tientsin.

A RECENT arrival from the North reports that at Tangku on the morning of the 5th instant four quick-firing guns and a number of men were landed from the British warships. H.M.S. Albatross was at anchor off the Taku forts and H.M.S. Whiting was at the bar keeping communication with the larger vessels. H.M.S. Fame had gone right on to Taku with men from the other ships. A party of men from the German cruiser Ilis went by train on the 3rd instant from Taku to Tientsin and about 2,000 Chinese troops travelled by the same train.

DISPATCHES have been received from Peking by the local mandarins stating that H.E. Sheng has been sent for by the Tsungli Yamèn to go up to Peking at once, to investigate the recent destruction of the Northern Railway lines and to assist in the negotiations with the Foreign Ministers, which are expected to take place in the near future. Apropos of the above, H. E. Sheng is expected in Shanghai shortly from Hankow. He will make a stay of a couple of days here and then start for the North. If the negotiations end favourably to all concerned there is every probability that H. E. Sheng will be made a Vice-President of the Board of Works as a reward for his assistance.

H.E. SHENG is really very seriously concerned at the loss of six of his Belgian engineers, and he is going north at once to enquire into matters.

News has been received by the local mandarins that the Russians in Manchuria have trobled their Cossack guards all along the railway line from Port Arthur to Newchwang and to Kirin, and that 15,000 Russians, with transports all ready, are at Port Arthur prepared to embark at the shortest notice for Tientsin. This has so excited Chinese in Newchwang that they have telegraphed to Shanghai to stop sending goods until further orders.

THE local mandarins claim to have received news from the North, stating that the 5,000 or so Russians destined for Peking are at Peitaiho, that they have with them twenty guns, and that they will utilise the railway there to take them to Tientsin as soon as orders are received from the Russian Minister at Peking to do so. In view of this the Chihli Corps, under General Nieh, and six battalions belonging to the Szechuan Corps of General Sung Ching have been ordered to concentrate at various important points along the railway between Peitaiho and Tientsin.

A TELEGRAM from Peking dated the 9th inst., received by the local mandarins, states that the Empress Dowager and the Emperor, who have recently been staying at Eho Park, returned to Peking on the above-named date in order to be near by during the pending negotiations between the Foreign Ministers and the Tsungli Yamèn. The actual cause of the Empress Dowager's return to Peking is, however, said to be due to the fear that her "Bulwarks of the Throne," the Iho Ch'uan, might enter Eho Park some fine night and take possession of her and the Emperor and so prevent the Government from opposing their schemes, whatever they may be.

A Soochow dispatched received here yesterday states that Li Ping-heng, the notoriously anti-foreign Imperial High Commissioner of the Yangtze, has received telegraphic instructions from Peking to proceed up North with all haste, the defences of the Liangkiang being placed in the joint hands of Viceroy Chang Chih-tung and Liu Kun-yi. This is generally regarded as a good riddance.

We have been favoured with the following extract from the letter of a lady at Tientsin, dated the 3rd instant:—

"We are having a most anxious time here; not so much the fear of attack, as

we now have several bluejackets and marines here, and are all well prepared, but we can't sleep at night for fear of fire, as the Boxers have said they will burn the place, and two nights ago they did burn a big godown. So we all lie with our things all packed ready to throw out of the windows. Patrols go round all night, and we are all on the alert. Yesterday a runner came in from some thirty French, begging for aid. They had been marching three days and nights with their women-folk; the Boxers had driven them from their homes and wrecked the railway. A Volunteer party went out, and by degrees about twenty wretched, worn-out-looking men and women got in here in a bad state, four wounded, one carrying a Boxer flag he had managed to seize and stick to. One poor woman had a baby three days old, it died, but the mother is here quite safe. Poor souls, they had an awful time and have, of course, lost all their homes and belongings. Not only were they chased by Boxers, but Chinese regular soldiers fired on them. However, they killed 63 Chinese between them, and got in with only four wounded, but seven are still missing."

Our Weihaiwei correspondent writes under date the 2nd inst. that H. M. ships Centurion and Whiting left for Taku on the 1st. The Endymion arrived on the 1st, coaled, and proceeded to Taku, and the Alacrité was to go on the 2nd. The Baffleur, Humbler, Phoenix, and a coal steamer were left in harbour.

Our correspondents at Hankow, Hangyang, and Wuchang all write that there is a kidnapping scare there at present, it being asserted that children are needed to be "sacrificed" to the "foundations" of the Lu-Han railway.

We learn that the plans for an Association Building in Shanghai have worked out satisfactorily. The Association has secured the support of our leading merchants and bankers and has available for its expenses during the next four years over \$40,000. Its financial position is such that the Association will be able to conduct its work in the most attractive and approved manner. The Association's directors have rented, for a term of four years, a three-and-a-half storied long now being constructed by the Land Investment Company, at the rear of Sassoon & Co.'s offices on the Bund. A new street is to be put through between Nanking and Peking roads, and parallel to them, which will connect the Association directly with the Bund. This new building is being finished to suit the needs of the Association, and will be ready for occupancy about October the first. The building will have large drawing rooms, reading-room, library, lecture-hall, class-rooms, roof-garden, and bed-rooms. The members and friends of the Association are undertaking to raise the sum of \$3,000 to furnish the building. It is understood that the members of the Association are considering plans for a new swimming bath; there seems to be plenty of room for two in such a place as Shanghai.

FRIDAY'S "Echo de Chine" contains the minutes of the meeting of the French Municipal Council on the 23rd of May last. After the transaction of the usual formal business, the licensing of dogs was determined on, and the regulations as they appeared in the minutes published yesterday of the other Council were adopted. The superintendent of the French police reported a case in which the Chinese had confiscated three calves which two countrymen were bringing in for sale in Shanghai, one of the countrymen being given 15 days' cangue and 200 blows with the bamboo, and the other released on bail, after both had been imprisoned for some days; so that the country people are now afraid to bring

in their calves. The chairman was asked to urge the Consul-General to obtain full reparation for this outrage from the Chinese who should not be allowed to interfere with the supply of cattle for the provisioning of the Concession and the vessels in harbour. It was decided in accord with the other Council to continue the prohibition to women of access to opium dens; it was decided to take a Census of the Concession in June; and after some other unimportant business the meeting adjourned.

An article in Friday's "Echo de Chine" informs its readers that the greyhounds of the Atlantic are called "crak ships," a term which corresponds to that of rash vessels, on account of the dangerous audacity of which their extreme speed seemed to accuse them, a speed obtained not only by their lines and their propulsive force, but also, because, constructed mainly with a view to the transport of passengers, they cared less than other packet-ships for heavy cargo."

THE circumstances under which the French and Russian troops who were about to land at Taku were forced to re-embark, as reported in the "Echo de Chine," are rather amusing. The troops in question were on lighters which followed the L.-C.S. Kingsing into the Peiho. The Kingsing had a high official on board, and as she approached the forts they fired a salute in his honour. The troops construed this as an attack on themselves and returned to their ships. It was a perfectly natural mistake, and as the troops were defenceless on the lighters, the only thing they could do was to return as they did.

WE have received from Mr. G. Mayehara, Manager of the Osaka Mercantile S. S. Co., a pamphlet written by Mr. Nakahashi Tokugoro, President of the Company, entitled "Osaka as a Free-Trade Port, also as the National Capital of Japan."

WE have received a copy of the report for 1899 of the Transatlantic Marine Insurance Co. of Berlin, Ltd. The profit and loss account showed a balance at credit of 173,283 marks, and the total assets on the 31st of December last, less shareholders' accepted bills, were 2,268,484 marks.

WE have received from Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., a copy of a new issue in Longman's Colonial Library, *Sophia*, by Stanley J. Weyman. With frontispiece. In paper, 8vo., 374 pp. London: Longmans, Green & Co. Shanghai: Kelly and Walsh, Ltd. 1901.

WE have received from Messrs. Scott, Harding & Co., the Shanghai agents, the report for 1899 of the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Co. In the fire department the net premium were £1,509,038, and the net losses and claims £993,982, the account, without the addition of interest, showing a deficit of £22,740. In the life department the total premium income was £239,295, and the net claims paid including bonuses amounted to £258,180. The credit balance of Profit and Loss Account was £1,189,397, and the total assets of the Company on the 31st of December last were £10,380,104.

THE 75th Annual Meeting of the Scottish Union and National Insurance Company was held at Edinburgh on the 9th of May. The Report stated that, during 1899, 995 new life policies had been issued, amounting to £184,795, and yielding in premiums £17,591. The life and annuity funds amounted to £3,915,569. A quinquennial valuation of the Life Assurance business brought out a surplus of £335,906. The fire premiums received amounted to £541,991

and the claims were £373,365. A dividend was declared at the rate of 16 per cent, with bonus of 1½ per cent, leaving a balance of £26,006 to be carried to next year's account. The total funds amounted to £4,974,890. A Committee of the Board had gone over the whole of the investments and securities, which they reported as being satisfactory. The stocks, shares, etc., stood in the books at considerably less than the market value. The Report was approved of.

GIVING an account of a recent concert at Bloemfontein in aid of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, organised by the war correspondents, the "St. James's Budget" says:—

The event of the evening was the singing of a new poem written by Mr. Rudyard Kipling to the air of "Auld Lang Syne." This was sung by Miss Florence Fraser, daughter of the former candidate for the Free State Presidency. Miss Fraser, who has a soprano voice, took the house by storm by her magnificent rendering of the song. We are indebted to the courtesy of "Daily Mail" for permission to reproduce the whole of Mr. Kipling's poem, which is as follows:—

We welcome to our hearts to-night our
kinsmen from afar,
Brothers in an Empire's fight, and comrades
of our war.
For Auld Lang Syne, my lads, and the
fights of Auld Lang Syne,
We drink our cup of fellowship
To the fights of Auld Lang Syne.

The shamrock, thistle, leek, and rose,
with heath and wattle twine,
And maple from Canadian snows, for the
sake of Auld Lang Syne,
For Auld Lang Syne take hands from
London to the line,
Good luck to those that toiled with us,
Since the days of Auld Lang Syne.

Again, to all we hold most dear in life
we left behind—
The wives we wooed, the bairns we
kissed, and the loves of Auld Lang
Syne.
For surely you have your sweetheart,
and surely I have mine.
We toast her name in silence here,
And the girls of Auld Lang Syne.

And last to him, the little man who led
our fighting line
From Kabul on to Kandahar in the days
of Auld Lang Syne.
For Auld Lang Syne and "Bobs," our
chief of Auld Lang Syne,
We're here to do his work again,
As we did in Auld Lang Syne.

THE trial trip of the second steel-twin screw towboat Tsin-Lee, built by Messrs. S. C. Farnham and Co., Ltd., to the order of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co. for service on the Peiho River, came off successfully on the 6th instant. At about 2.25 p.m. she left the Old Dock Buoy, and attained a speed of about 11½ knots, steamed as far as Princess Pier, Woosung, and returned at 5 p.m.; the results were entirely satisfactory. The towboat is of the following dimensions:—110 ft. long B. P., 20 ft. beam, 6 ft. depth. She has two sets of compound surface condensing engines, which developed during the trial about 350 horsepower. The boiler is constructed for a working pressure of 130 lbs. per square inch, and fitted with forced draught. The towboat is fitted with a steam windlass for working anchors, a mail room forward, saloon and officers' accommodation aft. The after peak is made suitable for trimming purposes by water ballast, and a strong towing post is fitted amidships.

Two of the lighters built to the order of the China Merchants' S. N. Co. for service on the Peiho River are now finished, and the other two will shortly be completed.

The heavy storm on Saturday deprived the yacht race of all interest, only two boats finishing—the "flapper" Leven and the 2½-rater Coronella—after dark.

We have duly received the June issue of the "Chinese Recorder and Missionary Journal," which is mainly devoted to a record of the Christian Endeavour Convention at Foochow.

We have received from the Nippon Emporium some samples of a natural Japanese mineral water, "Ishinichi," for which the Emporium is the Shanghai agent.

In another column we reprint from Tung Chia's "Lays and Relays" the poem entitled "An Ichang Exile's Prayer," much of which will be found remarkably appropriate at the present juncture.

The water mark at Hankow, on the 9th inst., was 20ft. 8in and falling, and at Kinkiang, on the 10th, 22ft. 10in.

The M. M. S. Sydney with the French mail of the 19th ult. left Singapore for Shanghai on Sunday at 7 a.m.

The N.-D.L.S. Bayern left Singapore on Thursday, the 7th inst., bringing the German mail of the 14th ult.

The French mail of the 3rd of May was delivered in London on the 5th instant.

The R.M.S. Empress of Japan arrived at Vancouver on Wednesday at 8.30 a.m.

The T.K.K.S. Hongkong Maru arrived at San Francisco on the 5th instant.

The "Glen" Line steamer Glenshiel with the first Hankow and Foochow Teas for London left Foochow on Monday morning, the 11th of June.

The Upper Yangtze steamer Pioneer, which left this on Sunday morning, the 3rd inst., for Chungking, arrived at Ichang, all well, on Sunday last, the 10th inst.

By the M. M. S. Laos, which arrived early on Thursday morning, Detective Grant, of the Hongkong Police, was a passenger having in his custody Fritz Max Ulbricht, late Secretary of the German Club in Shanghai, for whose arrest for embezzlement a warrant was issued some weeks ago. The prisoner, on arrival, was lodged in the Central Police Station and in the forenoon was brought up at the German Consulate, before the Consul-General, Dr. Schnitzler, when the charge was formally read to him. In the afternoon, Ulbricht, in custody of D. S. McDowall, was brought before the Vice-Consul, Dr. Ackermann, and what statement he had to make was taken in camera, also particulars as to witnesses he wished to have called, etc. The date of the trial proper is not yet fixed. The prisoner has altered considerably in appearance, being now pale and thin, but he shows no effects of his attempt at suicide.

The Russian gunboat Gilyak arrived here on Wednesday morning from Saigon, and went to a berth in the Upper Reach. She is a steel vessel of 963 tons displacement, length 20ft. and beam 37ft. Her indicated horse-power is 1,000, and she was built at St. Petersburg in 1897. Her armament consists of one 4.7 q.f., five 3-in., two 2.6 and four 1.8 guns; she has two torpedo tubes, and a speed of 12 knots.

The German gunboat Jaguar was at Chinkiang on the 5th instant.

The s.s. Ragnar (Norwegian) was docked at the Old Dock on Thursday.

The bark Lucia, bound from Singapore to Shanghai, was reported by the Russian gunboat Gilyak on the 2nd instant in Lat. N. 21°39' and Long. 116°5' E., "all well."

The C.M.S. Hsinchi, which arrived on Wednesday (6th) from Tangku direct reports that when leaving Taku Bar on the 4th instant there were 21 warships off

the bar, comprising British, American, Italian, French, German, Austrian, and Russian vessels.

The C. N. S. Shengking, which arrived on Sunday from Chefoo, reports that she passed the steamer Hsiping with a dismantled barque in tow on the 9th instant in 35.30 N. 122.35 E.

The PRINCE A. DE BROGLIE, who is travelling with a party in the steam yacht Victoria, arrived in Shanghai the other day from the North. Leaving home in October last, he visited Ceylon, Burma, Singapore, Java, Japan, Vladivostok and Corea. After Shanghai the Prince and party intend to proceed to Saigon and get back to France in August. Besides the Prince the party includes the Ctesse, Chandon de Brailles, the Cte. de Marsay, Mr. Noel Goldsmith, Mr. H. Say, and Mr. Robert de Broglie. Whilst in Peking the visitors saw little of the Boxer troubles, and they were fortunately able to get away before the complete interruption of railway traffic between the capital and Tientsin. Two days were spent in Peking, and in consequence of the activity of the Boxers foreigners were advised to keep as much as possible inside their houses. Last Saturday the Prince and his friends left Peking, passing on the way the ruined station at Fengtai which had been burned down. There was great activity amongst the foreign warships at Taku, where some twenty vessels had assembled.

We have received Hongkong papers to the 9th inst.—Aguinaldo's bodyguard was defeated by a party of Americans near Sagad at the end of May, and a mounted officer was killed who there is some reason to think was Aguinaldo himself.—Great regret was felt at the departure from Hongkong of Mr. Herbert Smith of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, who passed through Shanghai homeward-bound by the Empress of China on Saturday.—The "Straits Times" was bought by Mr. MacLennan, a son-in-law of the late proprietress.—The mortality from plague in India is rapidly declining.—It is reported that the new cruiser Argonaut which was coming out to the China station has broken down and will be delayed for a month.—A most serious state of things exists at Aberdeen, in Hongkong. The harbour is crowded with junks which refuse to go to sea and are constantly firing off their guns and small arms, as they are possessed with the belief that a steam launch is prowling about outside on the look-out for old people and children for the foundation of the Kowloon-Canton railway.—Lt.-Col. The O'Gorman has been granted an extension of six months as D.A.A.G., China.—We learn that the Col. Mahon who commanded the relief of Mafeking was Brevet Lieut.-Col. Bryan Thomas Mahon, D.S.O., 8th Hussars, one of Lord Kitchener's men.—The Hon. Ella Scarlett, medical adviser to the Emperor of Corea, arrived in Hongkong on the 5th by the N.Y.K.S. Hitachi Maru.—The British India S. N. Co. is extending its Manila service to China and Japan.—A lascar died of plague on board the P. & O. S. Coromandel, on the voyage between Hongkong and Singapore.—The Crown Prince of Prussia is to make an Oriental tour, including India.—The following telegram has been received by the Acting Governor, Hongkong:—"6th June. The Queen commands me to express her appreciation of Hongkong's congratulation on Lord Roberts's entry into Pretoria."

The "Hongkong Daily Press" of the 6th says.—On Sunday morning H.M.S. Rosario reached this port, where she joins the China Squadron. She is a twin-screw steel-sheathed sloop of 980 tons displacement, in charge of Commander Claud A. W. Hamilton. She takes the place of the Rattler. The Rosario was built at Sheerness in 1898 at a cost of £65,578,

and is fitted with Belleville tube boilers, the engines indicating 1,400 horse-power with a speed of 13.2 knots. She was commissioned for service on the China Station on the 20th March last at Sheerness, and after taking in stores put to sea on the 31st of that month and had a fine passage out. The Rosario carries two guns, 6 in., and 4 3-pounder quick-firers, and has a complement of 104 officers and men.

The Odessa correspondent of the "Standard" telegraphed last month:—It is abundantly evident that the extraordinary activity lately observable in the Japanese arsenals and dockyards, and in the chief military centres, is causing not a little anxiety at St. Petersburg. In addition to the daily dispatches received by the Government from its own political agents in Japan, every scrap of information reaching London from the Far East is collated and transmitted to the Asiatic section of the Russian Foreign Office. The grand naval manoeuvres, fixed by the Tokio Government to take place next week, are viewed with suspicious interest from the banks of the Neva, and are presumptively spoken of as being covertly intended to constitute a demonstration against Russia and Russia's lesser maritime power in the Far East. Orders have been telegraphed to the Admiral commanding the Russian squadron to keep a close observation upon the Japanese fleet in the waters lying between the Island of Tsushima and the Korean coast. It is not improbable, however, that the Japanese Admiral may, at the last moment, disappoint the Russians by suddenly changing the site of his evolutionary operations. It is significant that this possibility is taken into due consideration at St. Petersburg. It is no longer denied that Russian diplomacy has for some time past been outwitted by the astute Japanese, and the result is that this country now entertains the most lively distrust of its increasingly powerful Far Eastern neighbour, the further development of whose ulterior designs still remains an uncertain quantity. The Japanese learned a lesson at Shimomoseki which they are not likely to forget.—"Hongkong Daily Press."

A TELEGRAM from its correspondent at Singapore in the "China Mail" of the 8th inst. says:—

On the initiation of Chinese born in the Straits Settlements, an enormous lantern procession was held at Singapore to celebrate the occupation of Pretoria by Lord Roberts.

The procession was joined in by all nationalities, and after parading the streets proceeded to Government House, where congratulatory speeches were made amidst the greatest enthusiasm.

The "Daily Express" New York correspondent telegraphed on the 9th ult.:—There was much of international interest in the dinner given by the American Asiatic Association, at Delmonico's last night, to Sir Thomas Jackson, the head of the great Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The gorgeous banquet room was decorated with American, British, Chinese, and Japanese flags, and beneath the clustered colours the guests drank, standing, to the Queen and to the President. Wu Ting-fang (Chinese Minister), Sir Percy Anderson (the British Consul-General), Bishop Potter, and President Jessup, of the Chamber of Commerce, sat at the guests' table. Sir Thomas Jackson said that the Americans were a truly Imperial race, and that for their trade and that of England there was unlimited expansion possible in China. He thought that Lord Beresford's book, "The Break Up of China," had a misleading title, for 1899 had been China's most prosperous year. He praised Secretary Hay's open door policy, and declared that America and England should stand shoulder to shoulder to keep the world's markets open. Minister

Wu Ting-fang endorsed Sir Thomas Jackson's remarks, and said that China would survive as a nation for many centuries.

We have received Japan papers with dates from Yokohama and Kobe to the 2nd, and Nagasaki the 5th inst.—The Russian steamer Baikal went ashore at Hirato on the 25th ult.—The Japanese steamer Geiko Maru stranded at Takami on the 30th and afterwards sank. No lives were lost.—Mme. Delphes, the Sphix, has been trying to shoot M. Fancois, of Oppenheimer Frères at Yokohama, while apparently suffering from temporary derangement.—The Korean Minister of Justice and police officials have been punished for torturing and killing Kwong and An.—The Korean correspondent of the "Nagasaki Press" ends a letter on the recent outrage on justice at Seoul by saying:—

What will the Japanese Government do? That is one of the political consequences which no one can foretell. Minister Hayashi, one of the brightest men Japan has had here, on hearing the news immediately demanded an audience with the Emperor. This was refused him. He then sent a vigorous letter of protest to the Foreign Minister and there is no doubt that the wires between Seoul and Tokio have been kept busily at work since yesterday.

It is notorious that Corea inaugurated the war between Japan and China, and the first ostensible act of that great tragedy was the assassination, by a minion of the Korean Emperor, of Kim Ok-hui in Shanghai. Is it possible that again this fatal nation is about to deluge the Far East in blood? It is notorious that the relations between Japan and a certain Power are strained to breaking point. It is also notorious that the faction in Corea which has done An and Kwong to death is in favour of that certain Power.

Just at this time also a company of Japanese infantry have arrived to relieve part of the troops in the Japanese garrison in Seoul. The relieving purpose has been given up, so that so far they really constitute a reinforcement to the Seoul garrison. Japan knows just what step to take in this emergency and is prepared to take it.

THE "Japan Mail" of the 2nd instant says:—

It appears to be tolerably certain that the Ministry will go out of office. Marquis Yamagata is believed to be unwilling to remain in power at the cost of any of those that have hitherto served with him, and the Liberals, on their side, want some portfolios. The probable issue will be the organisation of a new Cabinet under the presidency of Marquis Ito. The Marquis has plainly no desire to resume the control of the Administration, but no other course seems feasible. Doubtless Mr. Hoshi Toru will occupy an important place in the new Ministry; probably the portfolio of Home Affairs will fall to his lot.

TRAVELLERS by the Canadian Pacific Railway will be glad to know that on the 11th instant the Canadian Pacific Company resumed the fast Overland train service between Vancouver and Montreal. This fast train known as the "Imperial Limited" leaves Vancouver daily at 1.15 p.m. and runs through to Montreal without change in 100 hours, thereby shortening the time crossing the Continent by 24 hours, and enabling passengers to make fast time to all principal points. Luxurious and newly designed dining and sleeping cars are run through daily on the "Imperial Limited," which makes close connections at Fort William with the Company's Upper Lake steamers, for passengers wishing to break the journey and enjoy the Lake scenery between Fort William and Owen Sound, without additional charge. Through passengers also have the option of leaving the Main Line at Revelstoke and proceeding

through the famous Kootenay mining district in British Columbia and out again over the Crow's Nest Pass line to Dunmore Junction. All along this route excellent fishing and hunting are found. The company's hotel at Banff Springs, in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, was opened for the season on May the 15th.

From the issue of the 4th of April of the Bloemfontein penny paper, "The Friend," edited by the war correspondents with Lord Roberts's force, we take the following editorial:—

THE END OF THE WAR.

We are constantly asked when this war will end. We wish we could give the date—or could feel ourselves able to judge within a month thereof.

This we do know: that the war planned by the Boers for many, many years and actually begun last October came to an end with the relief of Ladysmith, the freeing of Kimberley and the entrance of Field-Marshal Lord Roberts's army into what had been the Orange Free State.

That war to which we refer was a war of extermination of the British in South Africa. The programme laid down by the Boers was the capture of the British territories, Natal and Cape Colony, and the driving of their loyal inhabitants into the sea at Table Bay and Durban.

There was contemplated nothing short of the conquest of two of the Queen's Colonies. It did not take into account any fighting on Boer territory or any invasion of such territory. It was to be fought out on British soil to the damage of British property and the slaughter of such British as did not flee from their homes.

That war ended quickly in a complete failure.

Now, another struggle is going on for the settlement of the question whether the two races are to live in peace as neighbours in South Africa, whether the Boers are to continue to obstruct modern progress with seventeenth century narrowness, whether white men who elect to live here are to have white men's rights and white men's liberty.

These questions are so simple and the only answer to them is so sure that we cannot believe the war is to last much longer.

A WRITER in the "National Review" maintains that England is relying too much on old men, and that the Empire was built up mainly by young men. So far as the army is concerned, there are decidedly two opinions on the matter. In South Africa, for instance, Lord Roberts is 67, Sir George White 64, Sir C. Clery 62, General Tucker 61, Sir Redvers Buller 60, Kelly-Kenny 60, Sir Charles Warren 60, A. Fitzroy Hart 55, Lyttelton 54, Sir H. Chermiside 49, Gatacre 56, Sir H. Colville 47, Sir L. Rundle 44, Lord Kitchener 49, Sir F. Carrington 55, Lord Methuen 54, Forestier-Walker 44, Sir A. Hunter 43, Pole-Carew 50, and French 47. Cromwell was 46 when he won Naseby; the Duke of Marlborough 52 when he took the field for his campaign as generalissimo in Flanders; Napoleon was 45 at Waterloo; Grant was 44 when he commanded at Shiloh; Sheridan 33 when he received the command of the Army of the Potomac; Sherman 44 when he started upon his immortal Atlanta Campaign; "Joe" Johnston was 52 at the outbreak of the war; Lee 54; "Jeb" Stuart 28; "Stonewall" Jackson 37; Wolfe was only 42 when he fell on the heights of Abraham; and Wellington was 34 when he commanded at Assaye. On the other hand, Moltke was well advanced in years during the Franco-German War; Krüger is 76, and Joubert and Cronje both over 60. Max Müller says that, as a rule, man is meant to learn in his youth, to act in his manhood, to counsel in his advancing years, and to meditate in his extreme old age.—"Japan Mail."

"THE FRIEND" of Bloemfontein has the following note:—

To Correspondents.—Please do not write on both sides of your letter sheets when you contribute to the "Friend."

It's all right to take a kopje on both sides, but you should not send it in on both sides.

Some of the Editors are sufficiently profane already.

LINDLEY is in the Orange River Colony, about 45 miles to the eastward of Kroonstad, and 40 miles south of Heilbron. A telegram dated London the 3rd inst. said that General Rundle's object on the 29th ult. was to draw the enemy from Lindley where 500 of the Yeomanry were isolated, and that he had attained his object after a hot engagement in which the Guards lost heavily.

ROODEVAL is on the railway, about 30 miles northward of Kroonstad.

AMERICA Siding is about fifteen miles northward of Kroonstad, and Honning-spruit is about midway between America and Roodeval, all being on the railway through the Orange River Colony to Pretoria.

WITH reference to the expedition of the Rajah of Sarawak into Tru-un, the "Straits Times" learns from a well-informed source, that the Rajah's expedition was entirely successful. His men had a hard march over bad paths and high mountains. Such obstacles naturally caused delay, and the delay gave rise to some rumours of difficulty. But the Rajah's success was complete. The rebels lost 35 killed, and 20 long houses were burned and the paddy farms destroyed. The loss on the Rajah's side was 3 killed and 15 wounded. It is considered that the troubles are now quite settled.

THE Bureau Veritas Monthly List, published on the 1st of May, of wrecks and casualties recorded in March last, announces that 152 sailing vessels were reported as totally lost; 56 by stranding, 4 by collision; while 6 foundered, 7 were abandoned, 70 were condemned, and 9 were missing. No less than 140 sailing vessels were damaged; 26 by stranding, 32 by collision, 7 by fire, 24 by leaks, and 51 by stress of weather. The steamers totally lost were 56; 14 by stranding, 5 by collision; while 4 foundered, 20 were condemned, and 13 were missing. The steamers damaged were 249; 46 by stranding, 68 by collision, 15 by fire, 9 by leaks, 42 by stress of weather; while 69 reported injury to their engines or boilers.

A very well-known old Shanghai resident writes from Port Elizabeth under date the 28th of April:—

Our difficulties in South Africa are very great, as we cannot treat the Cape Colony as a hostile country, although its government is really hostile. It is in the hands of the Dutch party, really concealed enemies, and they manage the railways, and, I believe, obstruct the movement of troops and stores from the coast to the front. It was shameful to see the Guards (2nd Grenadiers), the finest battalion ever landed in South Africa, put into coal trucks exposed to rain and cold, while there were plenty of good carriages kept for the Easter holiday excursionists. The Colonial Government ought to be suspended, at least for the present, and we ought to have control of all the resources of the country. Every horse fit for military service in this colony or in the Free State should be requisitioned. Horses are more wanted than men, and if we don't take the horses the Boers get them, in many cases with their owners. Our stores, fodder, etc., can't be landed fast enough as there is nowhere to store them. Steamers remain months waiting to discharge. It is the same at Cape Town and East London, whilst there are plenty of public buildings which should be requisitioned."

Miscellaneous Articles.

HOW PROGRESS IS MADE IN CHINA.

8th June.

THE common question by enterprising foreigners is not how China progresses but whether she progresses at all. The European and American, coming to the Far East from lands in which railway speed and telegraphic annihilation of distance have become part and parcel of the daily life, are met with what seems to them utter stagnation, and it is only after years of experience that they see that movement is all the while going on. They should not be too eager. It is well within the memory of men, not yet beyond middle age, that stage coaches ran from London to Exeter taking three days over the distance now done in four hours, and the stage coach represented for those days the acme of rapid communication. Along the same road there crawled broad-wheeled waggons, piled with goods and drawn by eight enormous horses, of which there was a country conceit to the effect that one must stand behind a post to know for certain whether the waggon moved or not. It certainly took a week or more to make its journey to the metropolis.

Unlike impressionable Japan, China goes slowly. She imitates the road waggon rather than the stage coach. But her progress is, for her, as perfectly natural as was the rapid dash to the front of the Japanese. Japan learnt and adopted Western manners and customs as it were by intuition. Seeing and appreciating were one operation with her: imitation and experience have done the rest. With China, the experience has had to come first; seeing was not sufficient, and appreciation was hindered by conceit. But in a hundred different ways the effect of the tens of thousands of foreign object lessons is being felt, and the great wall of partition between native and outlander has been breached in scores of places.

There is, for example, no week in China. Yet an appreciation of the convenience of the division of days by seven is spreading throughout the length and breadth of the land. The native clock has hours of double the foreign length, but the foreign watch is beating the native timekeeper out of the field. The Chinaman who comes into constant contact with the foreigner has even begun to realise that "to-morrow" means within the twenty-four hours following to-day, and not something as indefinite as the to-morrow of St. Patrick. He sees now that it is of some use to be definite, even in time.

In money affairs too, he has learnt a lesson. He recognises that good

honest coins in silver and gold are preferable to hundredweights of debased "cash," and that for some uses notes payable on demand are better still. Consequently he has taken to them. Mints have already sprung up, and an Imperial Bank of China is "un fait accompli." All this spells progress in thought and intention. Then there is the new Postal System, inaugurated by Sir Robert Hart, but none the less Chinese for that. Of late, the promised educational reform has hung fire, probably only for a time. A change is seen to be a necessity, and its coming cannot be long delayed. The demand for foreign literature in native dress continues to grow. Newspapers, periodicals, and books are issued from the greatly multiplied press in their thousands, the more popular finding a ready sale, each copy going as a pioneer of that which we all hope to see, intellectual enlightenment.

When we come to mechanical achievements the signs of progress are still more promising. This is what we should expect. A man is much more ready to adopt a foreign mechanical invention than he is to take up with a social or intellectual innovation. A bicycle may be bought with no loss of self-conceit. The abandonment of a custom, or the adoption of a new division of time, is a much graver matter. The Chinese at the Treaty Ports have never been slow in taking to anything that was novel, provided it fell in with their ideas of what was useful, desirable, or fashionable. Driving has become a mania; the ricksha and the brougham have come to stay; the sedan chair has disappeared; bicycling is as much a craze with the native youth as ever it was in the sixties with the boys of England. Whenever opportunity offers, inland towns copy Shanghai. Nanking and Soochow have both their maloo, where rickshas and carriages are followed by the open-mouthed admiration of the unsophisticated onlooker. Far in the interior the traveller now and then comes across an electric light installation, while there is probably not a village, within the confines of South Kiangsu at any rate, where the rattle of the new cotton gin may not be heard. The question of internal water ways is not yet settled quite to our satisfaction, but the number of steam-launches plying on them is constantly increasing, and the educative power of steam is steadily breaking down obstructions to foreign mechanism in general.

Finally, there are the railways. An inland countryman, coming to Shanghai, loses little time before he goes at any rate to see the train. The "fire carriage" is, he notices, controlled entirely by one of his own countrymen, and that fact makes

him think. Wonderful as the whole thing seems, there can be nothing uncanny about it, or a foreigner would be in command. But what is not uncanny is natural, and what is natural may be useful and desirable. The chain of argument is very simple and quite convincing. He goes back home an apostle of progress. It may be taken for granted that the settlement Chinese, almost to a man, are ready to welcome every bit of machinery that the foreigner can show them will be profitable. Feng-shui may go, where it belongs, to the winds, if railways, telegraph lines, steam-launches and the like can be utilised by the native as they have been by the foreigner.

Year by year too, the number of natives brought under foreign influence increases as trade and treaty ports increase. The original five ports have been multiplied many times over, missionaries have doubled and trebled, while the travelling Chinaman is comparatively common to what he was. There is thus a revolution actually going on amongst the people of this great land. It is not meteoric as was that of Japan, but it is in consonance with the genius of the Chinese race and, being slow of growth, may from analogy be expected to be all the more thorough.

THE IMPERIAL DECREE OF THE 6TH INSTANT.

9th June.

THE war in South Africa has brought "slimness" into English dictionaries, and this quality stands out conspicuously in the Imperial decree which we publish this morning. The object of it, of course, is to prove to the Legations that the Government is determined to suppress the Boxers, while, at the same time, the Boxers, who are really favoured by the Government, must not be seriously offended. Accordingly, the decree begins by praising the missionaries, but regretting that a great number of men of bad character have joined the Christian churches, which, of course, is an excuse for the attacks of the Boxers. Then it is stated that the Boxers' original object was a laudable one, to defend themselves and their homes and villages from attacks by the bad Christians; but unfortunately, evil-minded men have joined their ranks, which cannot be permitted. And so a well-known reactionary, Chao Shu-chiao, is sent to investigate; the Boxers are not to be put down at once, lest the innocent should suffer with the guilty; but if after this warning the lawless ruffians, and militia men and revolutionaries continue their work of pillage and destruction, the regular troops will be sent against them and they will be crushed. This is hardly a decree with which we can expect our Representatives to be satisfied.

THE SEAMY SIDE OF SOCIETY.

29th June.

MR. ARNOLD WHITE has sent us a pamphlet entitled "Society, Smart Society, and Bad Smart Society: Their Influence on Empire, being seven letters written to the Editor of the 'Daily Chronicle.'" To one of the letters, published after Mr. Massingham had resigned the editorship of the "Daily Chronicle," there is an editorial note which says: "It must be understood that while we willingly give Mr. Arnold White the publicity of our columns for his interesting series of letters, we do not endorse all the views he expresses." As Mr. Arnold White's view of Society in England much resembles that taken by Ouida in her novel "The Massereenes," and adopted in such papers as "Truth" and the "Investors' Review," this note was perhaps not unnecessary. On the other hand, one of our great empire-builders who passed through Shanghai recently attributed some of our reverses in South Africa to the fact that our Generals are selected by the "smart women" in London, and Mr. Treves, the great surgeon, has quite recently described the plague that these smart women have been, and probably still are, in South Africa.

A few extracts from Mr. White's letters will certainly be of interest even to those who consider his strictures too severe; but it is the duty of the satirist to lay his colours on thickly. In his opening letter, dated the 30th of January of this year and headed "'Society' and the Work of the Empire," Mr. White says that everybody is waiting for the opening of Parliament, but there is no desire to displace the Government, because there is no alternative Cabinet ready, and the existing Government is responsible for the condition into which affairs have got. Mr. White goes on to say:—

The present calamities are not due to the action of any public department or section of a department in which employment is open to all comers duly qualified. The commissariat, the army medical staff, the company officers, the private soldiers, the Army Service Corps, and the transport department have done splendidly. There has been no failure in connection with any branch of the public service open to the public. The scandal and breakdown have resulted from the departments where the staff is chosen entirely from a small and privileged caste. Smart society has captured the Foreign Office, one side of the War Office, the cavalry, and the higher military appointments. What are the results? In foreign affairs on those matters of detail in which the overworked Premier and Foreign Secretary cannot be expected to interfere England has been bested whenever she has come into conflict with foreign Powers. The seizure of the Bundesrath and other German steamers, on false information, and their subsequent surrender under the humiliation of threats from Berlin, should have been impossible if the Foreign Office were organised on plain business principles, and worked by men who lost their billets if they were stupid or idle, instead of being

assured of pensions the more stupid and the more incapable they showed themselves to be.

In the same manner the British Army, in its higher branches, is a great social rather than a fighting machine. The Queen's uniform, that should be a source of pride, while compulsory on the private, is "bad form" on the officer off duty. The Germans do not thus regard the question—nor do the Boers. Without going into more detail, it is not a fact that the ornamental privileged caste among our rulers has hopelessly failed to justify its monopoly of certain branches of the public service, and that, therefore, if this war is not only to be won, but our national safety assured against even greater calamities, English democracy must reclaim the power with which they have parted, and by silent, peaceful revolution insist on fitness and efficiency becoming the one qualification for public employment?

In the Navy this is the rule to a large extent, and hence alone our national safety.

As an earnest of our resolve to nationalise the services, it is needful that men like Mr. H. Chaplin, Lord Lansdowne, and Lord Cross should be replaced by men with brain power, organising capacity, and business experience.

Mr. White's second letter, dated the 2nd of February, is headed "Where Smart Society Meddles," and shows how good men have been passed over because they were not popular in the smart set. He instances Sir Charles Warren, Sir F. Carrington (who has shown his value by relieving Mafeking with such almost incredible celerity), and Lord Charles Beresford. He then tells us something about the rumoured relief of Ladysmith, which was, it will be remembered, telegraphed out to Shanghai as a fact. He says:—

The day before the news of Sir Redvers Buller's defeat on the Tugela was published by the War Office, a statement—it was more than a rumour—was circulated throughout the country to the effect that Ladysmith was relieved. This statement was so assiduously spread abroad that I myself know of its existence at eleven a.m. on the day in question (1) on board an Isle of Wight steamer from Cowes to Portsmouth, (2) about ten a.m. in the house of one of the judges of the High Court, (3) in Edinburgh before noon. Two great names in smart financial society were mentioned in connection with the statement. It was absolutely and completely false. Now, this report was no mere Stock Exchange rumour. It was an unscrupulous device of the financial hangers-on of smart society for enabling people, who knew that Buller had failed, to sell mining stock to those who believed that he had succeeded. When this episode is probed to the bottom the public will learn something curious and alarming as to the price it pays for surrendering to smart society the control of the services, including the manipulation of news from the seat of war.

Mr. White does not suggest that corruption in its vilest form exists in our bureaucracy. "If addicted to red-tape, officials who have the defects of their qualities have also the virtues. They are brave, cheery, and good-tempered. But their want of imagination, their ignorance of the real conditions of successful administration, their contempt for business men, their complacent satisfaction with their own limitations and incompet-

ence, and their blindness to the serious side of life, together breed evils even greater than Pretorian corruption."

The next letter (12th February), headed "Smart Society' and its Unseen Foundations," is an indictment quite in Ouida's vein, but there is nothing in it that will surprise those who look sometimes into the Society papers, and see how people whom some of us have known in very much less prominent positions are constantly being mentioned, because they have made money, as leaders in the "Smart Set" in London. Mr. White explains:—

To enter the charmed circle, neither brains nor breeding, birth nor influence, are necessary. All that is required is money, and then more money—with an insolent contempt for the laws that are the unseen foundations of civilised society. A "useful" adventurer thus equipped can buy his way into illustrious circles as easily as he picks up a yearling at Newmarket. Every now and then an explosion takes place, and the public learns with bewilderment that cheating at cards is not unknown in smart society; or that women who are courtesans in all but name are no more tabooed in smart society to-day than they were excluded from the Pavilion at Brighton in the days of the Prince described by Thackeray as "the First Gentleman and most finished blackguard in Europe."

The secret influence on Government wielded by this Comus rout of Circees, sybarites, cynics, and financiers is subtle and profound. It is revealed to the public only in its effects. Legislation, foreign policy, taxation, is not always settled in Parliament. The real decisions are first made in smart drawing-rooms in the season; on Sundays in country houses; in boudoirs and restaurants. Is a man "straight," or a lady modest, and do they decline to bow the knee to bad smartness? Their reputation and chances are destroyed by the aid of the jannissaries of a smart society, always on hire to the highest bidder. The wrong class of American women—people who are not received in New York or Washington—are pushed into what is seemingly, but not really, exclusive society. During the last ten years the speculative financial element has become prominent in places where formerly it was despised. These capitalists are not in society for their health. They are on the prowl. They spend freely. Their largesse is an investment. As the modern nabob is commonly of alien extraction and not seldom of Eastern origin, he regards his adopted country with detachment of mind. Schemes are pushed by the force of public enthusiasm for Imperial expansion, which is adroitly manipulated for the benefit of financiers and their henchmen. Smart women without character, men without self-respect, and an Administration that is too philosophical, effete, preoccupied, or indifferent to see that England's greatness is slipping away from her are the allies of this infamous confederacy.

In his next letter (19th February), headed "'Smart Society' and Business Principles," Mr. White enumerates the five elementary maxims which are indispensable for efficient administration of large undertakings, and which are systematically neglected in our Public Offices, so that confusion and ruin are the result. He points out, as Grenville Murray did long ago in one of his imperishable "French Pictures

in English Chalk," that "no matter how honest and willing Ministers may be, they are, except in the rarest instances, completely at the mercy of their subordinates." There is no real responsibility in our public departments. "The Queen's yacht turns turtle in 1900. Nothing is done, except that the First Lord comes down to the House to praise the designer." No official is ever punished, even by the loss of his pension, for a gross mistake or even for a deliberate wrong-doing. "A few weeks ago a signalman was indicted for an act of carelessness that produced a collision, involving loss of life. He was sentenced to three years' without hard labour. Protected by smart Society, negligent and incompetent servants of the State, if in a certain caste, are immune from punishment for worse misdeeds than the signalman's. . . . After Admiral Byng was shot on his own quarter-deck, in Portsmouth Harbour, in 1757, the Naval service took the hint and became efficient. From Admiral Byng to the heroes of the Raid is a long step; but smart Society would be none the worse for a little hanging." The ambushade at Koorn Spruit, the responsibility for which has never been fixed on anyone, had not occurred when Mr. White wrote.

There are three other letters, but we must reserve them for another occasion.

THE CRISIS IN THE NORTH.

11th June.

No one can aver that the Foreign Powers have not been patient enough with the Empress Dowager and her advisers. She has been accepted as the *de facto* ruler and allowed to misgovern the country for nearly two years, during which we in Shanghai have chafed bitterly at her being allowed so much rope. She is hanging herself with it at last. Sir Claude Macdonald's telegram leaves no doubt about it. After recounting the outrages perpetrated by the Boxers, he says: "The Chinese Government has been affected by these events so far as to send high officials to parley with the Boxers, but it does not show any intention to summarily suppress them. Probably it still has power to do so, but the Throne is strongly influenced by sympathy with the movement, and the spirit of the troops is doubtful."

Sir Claude Macdonald has done well to send this long telegram to Mr. Pelham Warren for publication, and all British subjects here feel very grateful to him for this plain official statement of the situation. But it is more than that; it is a manifesto which has by this time been telegraphed all over the world, to prepare people everywhere for the action that the Foreign Powers, led by Great

Britain and the United States, are taking. The situation cannot come as a surprise to readers of the "North-China Daily News," for its coming has been predicted in our columns for months. But officials to whom it came easiest to accept whatever is as being right, people with axes to grind in Peking, and worshippers of force of every kind have endeavoured to make the world believe that the Empress Dowager was a great ruler, that she was justified in snatching the sceptre from the well-meaning but nerveless hands of her nephew, and that she alone could keep China in peace, and save the dynasty from extinction. What she has done is to put a great part of North China in rebellion, while the whole Empire is ripe for revolt. At last the Legations themselves have to admit that the Boxer movement is an anti-foreign, not merely an anti-Christian, movement, and that the Throne is strongly influenced by sympathy with it. It is to put this movement down that a considerable body is now forcing its way to Peking under the leadership of Admiral Seymour, R. N., and the American commander, who is probably Captain Bowman H. McCalla, U. S. N. There has been some idea that Russia intended to take the repression of the Boxers and the restoration of order in the North, with whatever duties of occupation might be involved, on herself single-handed; and Reuter has news from St. Petersburg that "Russia has decided to take immediate military action to repress the anti-foreign movement in China, but without dissociating herself from the joint action of the Powers." The Powers, we understand, are determined that no one of them singly shall undertake the responsible duty of restoring order; joint action is determined on, Great Britain, of course, taking the lead; and there is good reason to believe that Great Britain will very shortly have a military force in these waters much larger than the Chinese have any idea of. The rapid success of Lord Roberts in South Africa is enabling our Government to turn its attention to China, and the result of this shows itself already in Sir Claude Macdonald's manifesto, and will be still more evident before long. It is a comfort to us to know after all that our Government is not going to quietly withdraw from its proper position in North China.

On the head of the Empress Dowager and her chosen servants, who seem to be also her masters, lies the guilt of the murder of two British missionaries and several foreign engineers, besides numberless Christian converts. On her head lie the sufferings of the thirty Lu-Han Railway engineers and the six ladies, so graphically described by our Tientsin correspondent. The heroism with which these brave men and

women made their retreat from Pao-tingfu to Tientsin, fighting all the way and shot at when they tried to rest at night, the men carrying the women and child when these weaker members of the party broke down, will not readily be forgotten; and these sufferings as well as the murders must be atoned for. It is no doubt a serious matter for the Powers to remove the usurping Empress Dowager, but they must not shrink from the responsibility. It may be that they may be able to restore the Emperor to power, or they may be too late to save him from the tender mercies of his aunt; but under any circumstances there can now be no peace in China until the Empress Dowager and her reactionary Manchurian advisers are cleaned out. Firmness now may prevent the whole of China from being torn by rebellion, and it will be something gained to get rid of the complicated mass of lies and excuses which has accumulated round the Empress Dowager's usurpation.

The Hermione and Monocacy are leaving us to-day and we shall be left for the present without a British man-of-war in port until the little Esk arrives. We do not imagine that there is any present danger here, and Admiral Seymour no doubt wants as many men at Tientsin and Peking as he can collect, and we are somewhat surprised that we have not heard of the departure of the Hongkong Regiment for the North. It may be that it cannot be spared as there is a good deal of unrest in Kuangtung. Shanghai is safe enough with the force we have here, but there are plenty of rowdies and desperadoes in the neighbourhood, to whom the loot of Shanghai is a great temptation, and distorted reports of what has been going on in the North will travel down here with marvellous rapidity. Our local authorities will, of course, be on the alert for any thing that may happen.

The force that has gone and is going to Peking is none too large, considering that there are a large number of troops there fairly well drilled in foreign fashion and well armed. These troops apparently cannot be trusted to fight the Boxers and they may oppose our men, though they are not likely to oppose them very long, and we shall wait with great anxiety for news of the expedition, which, according to a native correspondent at Peking, General Tung Fu-hsiang is going to keep out of the capital by force.

Since the above was written we learn that three companies of the Welsh Fusiliers have been ordered to mobilise and be ready to leave for the North, if required.

12th June.

THE report is hardly credible which reached us last evening that the trouble in the North is being patched

up at home. The murders and burnings, the encouragement given to the Boxers by the Empress Dowager and her Manchu advisers, are to be forgiven and forgotten; all the Powers are to act together, as they have been doing all along, and there is to be no serious fighting. The Foreign Offices of the West are frightened at the idea of the collapse of the present dynasty, and the chaos that may follow for a time in China. No Power is to land troops in China—probably because the Foreign Secretaries are not sure if large bodies of troops were landed, what direction their energies might take. The foreign forces on the spot are considered to be enough to protect the foreigners in China and repress actual disturbances; and the whole question is to be settled diplomatically at home. The Empress Dowager, with her Government, if Government it can be called, is to have a new lease of life, and the day of reckoning is to be put off, though all the Foreign Offices of the West must know it is only postponed; that the internal fires may be masked for a time, but will break out again before long, and that this postponement will not mitigate their violence when the explosion comes. Of course, what is now going on in Peking may possibly render the realisation of this programme impossible. If it is realised it will be a deep disappointment to those who thought that under all circumstances this crisis would end in the Empress Dowager's power being finally taken away from her.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

12th June.

A VERY important telegram reaches us from Yunnanfu. It comes to us rather circuitously but its accuracy may be relied upon. It says that in consequence of a telegram from the French Minister, the French missionaries and officials are leaving immediately. A crisis seems imminent, and the French Consul advises all foreigners to leave.—The anti-foreign policy of the Empress Dowager and her advisers in the north has been felt and imitated, and is being felt and imitated, in other parts of China. In Yunnan, as in Shantung and Chihli and Szechuan, chapels have been burnt and converts murdered wholesale, and the French Consuls in that province have left their posts on the ground that life there was no longer possible. It was perhaps in consequence of the representations made by the French Consuls in Yunnan to their Minister that the latter advised all French missionaries and officials to evacuate Yunnan as soon as possible; but on the other hand, our telegram seems to indicate that this step originated with the French Minister. In

that case it might mean that the French Government foresees that the present troubles in the north are the last scene before the break-up of China, and that there is an arrangement between France and Russia that while the latter is making good her claim to the north of China, France shall take the west as her share; and if France is going to take Yunnan, it would obviously be desirable that the Frenchmen scattered about the province should come away as soon as possible. Frenchmen in French Indo-China, and their organs in France have been urging for a long time that Yunnan, Kueichou, and Szechuan are the hinterland of Tongking. Szechuan they are specially anxious to get, and Yunnan is necessary as the connecting link between Tongking and Szechuan.

Meanwhile, we doubt very much whether Russia has the sinister designs at present in North-China with which many Russophobes in China credit her. If Russia were to show her hand too plainly now, she would effectually alienate Great Britain, the United States, and Japan, and it is not her object, at present at any rate, to help Japan to the active friendship of the two English-speaking Powers. Russia has been accumulating men and stores of all kinds, coals and provisions, as well as money, in the Far East of late; but it is not necessarily to be inferred that she is contemplating any active measures in the near future in China or Corea. The attitude of Japan, and the known feeling of the Japanese, towards Russia is such that it is only common prudence on her part to be ready; she does not want to be found as unprepared for eventualities as we were in South Africa last autumn, and as we are, as Mr. Drummond points out, in the Yangtze Valley now.

How far the anti-foreign spirit which is now animating the Boxers in the north will spread, it is difficult to foresee. It is reported to have spread to Chefoo, whither, we hear, the U. S. S. Yorktown goes to-day. It appears to have spread to Yunnan, and wherever the officials are anti-foreign and anti-Christian, there are likely to be outbreaks. In the provinces ruled by the Viceroy Liu Kun-yi, that is, the provinces bordering the lower Yangtze, there will be no disturbances that will not be immediately suppressed. H. E. Liu is very pro-English, he is very determined, and he is a Hunan man and one of the idols of the Hnnanese. He has no compunctions in suppressing disturbances, and their invulnerability and incantations will be no protection to any Boxers or other disturbers of the peace who come within the reach of his arm. H. E. Chang Chih-tung is not so

strong a man as Liu, but he is not anti-English by any means, and he will not allow anti-foreign disturbances. The news that would make the peace of the Yangtze Valley certain, and most gratify the two Viceroys on whom it depends, would be the news that a large British force is really on the way to China, as we all hope it is. But even so, the situation is not a simple one. The deposition of the usurping Empress Dowager, unless the rightful Emperor Kuang Hsi can be rescued before it is too late, almost certainly means the end of the dynasty; and a change of dynasty in China, even though it has been expected as this has been, is not effected without much tribulation. China can only become a great nation again if two revolutions are wrought; an entire change in the education of the young, and the purification of officialdom. Kang Yü-wei knew this, and the edicts which brought about the coup d'état of 1898 were directed to produce these two revolutions. The literary world accepted the proposed change with surprising alacrity: but officialdom could not bear the prospect of reform and the Empress Dowager came to its rescue. Corruption gained the upper hand and the present crisis, which may end in the collapse of the empire, is the result. The interruption of telegraphic communication between Peking and Tientsin has been followed by the dissemination of startling rumours of all kinds, but to these we need not pay any attention.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

13th June.

THE recent attempt on the life of the Heir-Apparent to the British throne, occurring as it did when the national spirit was both tense and intense, has drawn much attention to the office and personality of the Prince of Wales. We have not yet seen the interesting fact chronicled that Albert Edward has now held the ancient dignity longer than any Prince on record. His grand-uncle, afterwards George IV, was Prince of Wales for fifty-seven years and a half, but during nine years of this long period the title was virtually in abeyance under the higher honour of Prince Regent. No other holder of the office, except the present, at all approximates to this. With regard to his Royal Highness, the exact date of the creation is difficult to obtain, but we are quite sure his tenure now extends over fifty-eight years.

It may surprise some of our readers to learn that the Prince of Wales, unlike the poet and the cricketer, is made and not born—"fit, non nascitur." Ever since the days of the Black Prince, the eldest son of the Sovereign has been Duke of Cornwall by birth, and Prince of

Wales by subsequent creation. Edward I, in 1284, conferred the title on his infant son, afterwards the poltroon of Bannockburn, but not till 1301 was the principality made a peerage; and it was only in 1343 that the special limitations which form part and parcel of our constitutional history were affixed. The Black Prince's entail was "to him and his heirs, the Kings of England," whereas that of the Dukedom of Cornwall was "to him and his heirs, the first begotten sons of the Kings of England." When the double functionary succeeds to the throne, the principality ceases by being merged in the Crown; it has to be re-created by letters patent, whereas the Dukedom instantly descends to the sovereign's eldest son or remains latent till such son be born. If Albert Edward succeeds his mother, his son George will at once become Duke of Cornwall, but he will have to wait a little for the higher title; if he predecease his mother both titles will pro tem. be extinguished. Though the Queen might then create her grandson Prince of Wales, she could not make him Duke of Cornwall without violating the law, as he would not be a "first begotten (surviving) son of the King of England." The second Richard and third George were both Princes of Wales but never Dukes of Cornwall; whereas the sixth Henry and Edward were both Dukes and never Princes.

That keenest critic of our times and constitution, Mr. Walter Bagehot, calls the place of the Prince of Wales in our social organisation a "vicious position," and historically his contention can be made good. Albert Edward is the first of the Brunswick Princes of Wales who has remained on even civil terms, let alone filial, with his parents. For two centuries antecedent to our days, the heir to the throne has been the pivot round which intrigue, faction, and political knavery have cohered and done their worst to arrest the King's government. As "King John" whines, "it is the curse of Princes to be attended by slaves that take their humours for a warrant." He has no political duty and no responsibility beyond that imposed by "noblesse oblige." He is apt to love delights and scorn laborious days, unless, like the present holder of the office in his late years, he becomes infected by the altruism of his time. We remember when "How shall we amuse the Prince of Wales?" assumed almost the dimensions of a national question. The pursuit of pleasure need not be morally and mentally debilitating, though it usually is so. The most intense pleasures probably lie in the mental excitement aroused by ambitious hopes, and in the sense of effort in realising these hopes. If such pleasures render the mind busy and the

soul benign, they are indeed the lords of life, to use Bentham's fine phrase. We fear such pleasures cannot really be those of British princes, for they are not allowed the chance of cultivating them. Beyond social ceremony and the passive function of figure-heading, our Heir-Apparent has no really serious business: from the day of his majority the Epicurean pleasures of the world are at his feet. Unlike his cousins, the Hohenzollerns, he is not taught the art of governing, of soldiering, or a trade. The common round and daily task which saved George III's reason for so many years and which have done so much for our Sovereign Lady's health and success, cannot be the Prince of Wales's, unless he makes them for himself. It is a very curious and significant fact that in five and a-half centuries we have had but one even fairly satisfactory Prince of Wales.

Twenty years ago it looked as if Albert Edward had succumbed to the temptations of the position. Men with sound political insight did not hesitate to say he had undermined the national reverence for the Royal position, that he had demoralised the throne by associating with the moneyed classes rather than with the old nobility, from whom he has ever kept a good deal aloof. He was looked upon as a prince of good fellows, rather than as a good fellow among princes. The ponderous men wagged their heads and uttered sententious truisms about the necessity of the alliance between Virtue and Royalty in these democratic times. They told us that the nation would never again tolerate another edition of George IV.

His Royal Highness has himself taken the wind out of all this prognostic; his evolution has been slow but sound, and at present it would be both grossly impertinent and altogether against the weight of evidence to predict that he will not be a model constitutional sovereign. We do not know to what to ascribe the gratifying change. His speeches reveal sound sense, and his actions a kind heart; he has a refined artistic taste (although the Gods have apparently debarred him, as they have done all his family, from literature), and a passion for music. His domestic life and influences have been idyllic for years, and ever seem to more graciously react upon him. He is happily endowed for the rôle of a constitutional King, possessing a genial manner, a broad and catholic sympathy, a prodigious memory for names and faces, and a happy tact. Moreover, he never spares himself where a new departure has to be taken in social benevolence. The Royal College of Music, the Imperial Institute, the housing of the poor, the financing of the London hospitals, have all engaged his devoted attention. His easy

address and affable manners have strengthened the affection of the common folk for the monarchy. The Sovereign, under our peculiar political system, reigns but does not govern, is less a ruler than the leader of our social life. The qualities which make a great ruler are not those of a social leader, and vice-versa: 'Old Noll and the Little Corporal' made but poor exhibitions in a drawing-room. As long as our working king, the Prime Minister, does the ruling well, we shall be well content to have the less heroic but equally essential qualities in our King de jure, the fountain of honour and the head of our society. We think the secret of the Prince's great popularity lies in a conviction that he has the qualities and endowment which will enable him to succeed his venerable and venerated mother; and higher praise it would be difficult to bestow.

Review.

NOTICES OF BOOKS, ETC.

(Série d'Orient, No. 2.) "Au Pays des Pagodes." Notes de Voyage, par A. Raquez. Illustrated with 57 drawings and photo-gravures. In paper, 4to., 429 pp. Shanghai: The Oriental Press, 1900.

The interesting articles written by M. Raquez for the "ECHO DE CHINE," during the latter half of last year, under the title of "Le Pays des Pagodes," have now been issued in book form with numerous illustrations. A preface to the volume from the pen of General Tchong Ki-tong, who has appeared before the public as the author of more than one work upon things Chinese, expresses complete satisfaction with what M. Raquez has written about his country, and assures us of the fidelity of the descriptions. The foreign critic, therefore, may well content himself with saying that the author possesses a happy knack of selecting interesting matter, and displays considerable descriptive powers. As a result, he has written a bright and entertaining book which leaves very little to the imagination. In addition to the usual round of sightseeing at Hongkong, Canton, Macao, and Shanghai, M. Raquez went up to Hankow and made a tour through Yunnan and Kweichow in company with M. Marteau. This will probably be found the most interesting portion of the book to dwellers in China. The illustrations have been well chosen, though the reproduction of some of these leaves something to be desired. In deference to the taste of those who love a little gore, the author has included the two photographs of the execution of the Namoa pirates, and the gruesome picture of the mutilated remains of Père Victorin. We are sorry that the writer of so entertaining a book, and who seems to have had a really good time, should have found anything to mar the perfection of his pleasure. We should not have thought the last sentence in the book justified by facts, but of course a Frenchman is a better judge. This is how M. Raquez ends up:—

"Bien des fois, au cours de ces longs mois passés en Chine, j'ai dû courber le front et rougir; je ne puis, en terminant la relation fidèle de ces impressions d'un voyageur, retenir le cri qui me monte aux lèvres: Pauvre France!"

Cheer up, M. Raquez! While you are weeping for your country, Englishmen are damning their Government. It all means the same.

"Things Chinese:" being Notes on Various Subjects connected with China. By J. Dyer Ball, M.R.A.S. Third Edition, revised and enlarged. In cloth, 8vo., 666, xxv pp. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., Hongkong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Singapore. 1900.

The preface to the first edition of "Things Chinese," an acknowledged imitation of Mr. B. H. Chamberlain's delightful "Things Japanese," is dated December 1891: the preface to the second edition February 1893; and that to the edition before us December 1899. The book is very considerably increased in size, as a consequence of the extensive additions that have been made to many of the articles, and the inclusion of a number of new ones. Indeed, Mr. Ball must find it difficult to keep the book within any reasonable limits, for it would take a twenty-volume cyclopædia to include what he must really know about things Chinese. China is not a country, but an agglomeration of twenty countries, and while there is a remarkable uniformity all over the Empire in some things, there is an inevitable diversity in others. Japan is an Empire of some forty millions of people, and it is not so audacious to try to get a survey of things Japanese into one portable volume; but China is a country of four hundred millions or thereabouts, and includes at least ten Japans. What should we think of the audacity of a man who proposed to get Things European into some seven hundred octavo pages?

Meanwhile, Mr. Ball has done his work uncommonly well. There are very few subjects that come up in China on which some information will not be found, either in its place alphabetically or by reference to the index at the end of the book. To the young resident in China it will be invaluable, while to the oldest it will always offer something he does not know; and the casual reader may take it up at any time and will be sure to be interested. Mr. Ball has not put his hopes at all too high when he says in his preface:—

"The author hopes that this little book will continue to excite interest in the present theatre of events, in the actors, the stage accessories that surround them, their environment, their play, and their by-play, the motives that influence their utterances, their posturing and acting; and furnish likewise the chance of peeps behind the scenes where the waving plumes and embroidered robes are cast aside, the exaggerated strides and falsetto tones are given up, the clash of mock warfare, crash of gong and clang of cymbal are stilled, the make-believe and mock heroics of the meagre stage are gone, and John Chinaman stands revealed, still most highly interesting in his reality and in all his surroundings, when stripped of the false glamour and meretricious tinsel that has gathered round him in the dim visions of the past."

LIFE AND VIGOUR FOR THE HAIR.

The only article which really possesses nutritious virtues for stimulating, and restoring the hair, is ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL. It removes scurf, harshness, dryness, prevents the hair being injured by illness, and should always be used for children's hair; no other article imparts such a beautiful and dressy appearance to the hair as ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL, and if you have never used it, you are strongly advised to procure a bottle without delay, and continue using it; also in a golden colour for fair hair. Sold by Stores and Chemists.

(3b) alt. 21my-900 247 22nd May, 1899.

Outports, Etc.

HANKOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE KIDNAPPING MANIA.

During the past week, Hankow and Wuchang have suffered from a remarkable outbreak of kidnapping mania. All along the streets, and at all hours of the day, there are people beating gongs and crying "lost children"; while the walls are stuck full of notices offering rewards for their recovery. Boys as well as girls are taken, and the natives are greatly alarmed about it. The Kidnappers, locally called "Moh-hu-tsz" (touch them stupid) are said to possess occult powers. They merely look at a child and touch it when, in a dazed sort of a way, it follows them wherever they go. Even grown-up people, they say, have been led off in this manner. As usual, the foreigner is held to be at the bottom of the mischief. This time it is the railway where a thousand children are required as sleepers!

TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS.

The strange part of the business is the action of the authorities in connection with it. A couple of supposed kidnappers were taken to the district magistrate in Hankow, Hsiak'outing, but he refused to have anything to do with them, and told the people that they must punish them themselves. Exactly the same thing happened at Wuchang when an accused kidnapper was taken to the Kianghsiahsien yamen there. The result of this was that on Saturday and Sunday no less than five men were done to death by mobs—three in Hankow and two in Wuchang—as kidnappers caught in the act. In Wuchang, one man was tied up in a bundle of pith lamp wicks, over which a tin of kerosene was poured, and then burned to a cinder, which is the approved method of dealing with a rat in order to get rid of a swarm of rats. But in the other cases the people simply rushed on the accused and battered and stamped the life out of them with hands and feet.

"ACCORDING TO LAW."

These affairs brought the Hsiak'outing to his senses, so he hurried out a proclamation demanding that all kidnappers must be handed over to the authorities to be dealt with according to law; and stating that he would show no mercy to them, or to those who might kill them. To show that he meant business, he had one alleged kidnapper choked to death in a cage opposite the Szkuantien on Sunday evening, so that made six in two days. These proceedings make one wonder if we are living in a highly civilised empire under the rule of enlightened officials like those of the West—as the international fiction has it—or in a black man's town where the chief power is in the hands of the witch doctor. That children are being abducted in anything like the number represented is not at all probable. The general opinion, even amongst the natives, is that our old acquaintance, the Secret Society, is at work getting up another scare, but with what particular object has not, as yet, become plain.

LU-HAN RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

I note that, in more than one quarter, certain remarks of mine re the Lu-Han railway and the recent accidents, have been keenly resented and their accuracy denied. But after all has been said, the facts remain pretty much exactly as I stated them, which was as follows:—"Two construction cars, crowded with workmen, proceeding at a rapid rate sud-

denly tumbled over an embankment, through some failure in the rail, with the result that nine men were killed on the spot and a great many injured, one of whom died afterwards." Every point of that statement is fully admitted with the exception that there was a failure in the rail. One writer states that this was impossible, because the rails in question are of such quality that failure cannot be mentioned in connection with them. Another writer says simply: "Two cars were derailed and fell over into the creek;" while a third explains that "the horizontal platform of a temporary bridge caused two of the wagons to jump the rails and fall into the ravine." I was not there to see, and could only report the incident in the same terms as it was told to me. But, if we had only been left at liberty to suppose that the rails used were not of the infallible, but of the ordinary kind, which like all human productions are liable to go wrong at times, I would humbly submit that there is no necessary conflict between my account of the cause of the accident and that given by those who would put me right.

THE FOREIGNERS RETREAT.

Next, I mentioned that the foreign employees, to the number of eighteen, beat a hasty retreat to Hankow. The public is told that "the sub-contractors and a number of coolies, and also a few foreign engineers, came up to Hankow as they apprehended trouble." But I repeat again the number of the "few foreigners" who came back here was eighteen. They did not all go back to the country, however, as several resigned of their own accord, having had enough of it, and the services of a good few more were no longer required.

DISCREDITABLE STORIES DENIED.

Next, the existence of the discreditable stories in the "Hanpao" is admitted, but they are said to be untrue. As to their truth or otherwise I expressed, and still express, no opinion. But now that their attention is called to the matter why does the Administration allow them to go on? I forward you a recent copy of that paper, dated May the 19th, where we have the following sample:—"On the second section of our local railway in the district of Hsaoan, a Belgian was taking liberties with a native woman in the morning when he was seen by the country people who rushed together and crowded around them. Upon this the Belgian fired a six-chambered revolver into the crowd and shot two persons—one a boy of eight years of age who was shot dead. We hear that the child was the only son in a family of three brothers, and that his mother is a widow. On hearing the report, the district magistrate hurried to the place to arrange the matter, but the bereaved relatives were grieved to death and refused to accept silver in settlement." The mischievous effect of an uncontradicted story like that, on the minds of both officials and people, hardly requires pointing out to anyone who has been a few years in China.

Lastly, fault is found with me for describing the men as we see them, and in a measure there is reason in that: the age of a lady and the looks of a man are subjects tabooed to the newspaper correspondent. At the same time I did them no injustice. A gentleman who met a party of them mounted on their ponies with guns at their backs said—meaning no disrespect—that they might have stood for one of those pictures we see in the illustrated papers of a Boer commando. In all these matters, my interest is simply that of the general public. I have not the honour of knowing the men personally, and have not the remotest concern in the railway. But I know this: the construction of that railway as at present carried on constitutes a serious

danger to the peace of this province. Unless they can contrive to have fewer accidents, and fewer stories, if will be found some morning that this end of the line has followed suit with the other end—and an excited populace will destroy it. Further, the zeal shown in defence of the management is a direct invitation to attack: if challenged again I shall be most happy to oblige with a few criticisms on other points.

5th June.

THE KIDNAPPING MANIA

is evidently regarded as serious by the high authorities at last. Yesterday a large proclamation, under the conjoint names of the Viceroy and Governor, was posted which reads as follows:—

"Whereas kidnapping is exceedingly rife in Hankow, Hanyang, and neighbourhood, and the magistrates of Hsiakouing and Hanyanghsien, having seized a couple of criminals, who on investigation proved to be kidnappers, sentenced them to the penalties prescribed by law and handed over the children to their parents: We learn that, taking advantage of this, certain lawless vagabonds are spreading rumours to the effect that children are being stolen in order to be sold to the foreigners on the railway—a wicked fabrication which fills us with astonishment, and which is manifestly spread by the villains with a view of creating disturbances. You must know that the railway is being built by Imperial authorisation with the object of conveniencing the State and benefiting the people, and each section is under the superintendence of specially appointed civil and military officers and soldiers. Besides, the criminals in their evidence clearly state that this matter has nothing to do with foreigners. How then can such vagabonds be thus permitted to excite the simple people? In addition to issuing orders to the local civil and military authorities to strictly seize all kidnappers, and those who fabricate these false rumours, in order that they may be punished according to law, we issue this proclamation that you, the soldiers and people, may all clearly know that whenever a kidnapper is caught he must be handed over to the magistrate for trial and punishment, and that you are not at liberty to privately beat them to death, and if there are any lawless vagabonds who falsely try to implicate the railway, a reward is offered for their apprehension—they will be punished without mercy. Tremble and obey this special proclamation." In addition to this the Hsiakouing has another proclamation out, offering rewards of twenty taels for every kidnapper or rumour-monger apprehended.

THE GENTLE ART OF ROWDYISM.

If all this is genuine business the trouble is now over. It was high time a stop should have been put to the further education of our rowdy population in the gentle art of mob murder; there were at least eight cases in half as many days. Generally, when a man is killed in this way, the officials make considerable stir about it, but in none of these cases did they take any notice. Further, the Boxers were reported as practising military gymnastics on the Hanyang parade ground, and no notice was taken of that either. Probably fresh instructions have now reached them. One wonders how much longer it will take our Ministers to discover that, if this war is to be finished, they must aim at Pretoria, which in this case means the Empress Dowager and her Government. Would that a Boxer would throw a brick or two at the sacred head of a Minister!

8th June.

HANYANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

KIDNAPPERS ABROAD.

This time last year the serenity of the neighbourhood was disturbed by a band of kidnappers, whose victims seem to have been all little girls. And now the like excitement prevails in an intenser degree, for both girls and boys are disappearing in rather alarming numbers. Nor are the kidnappers respecters of rank and station, for a certain weiyuan's little son is among the number of those missing.

CAPTURES.

Several villains have been caught in the act; two in Wuchang and one in Hankow and subjected to lynch-law. And the cages in which criminals "stand to death" are in use in all three cities.

RUMOURS CONCERNING FOREIGNERS.

Both those captured and beaten to death in the streets, and those on trial in the yaméns have protested that they were incited to the outrages by foreign employers! And the general opinion, where the statement is believed, is that the children are needed to "sacrifice" to the "foundations" of the new railway!

SUPERSTITIONS ONCE CURRENT IN THE WEST.

Years ago when the swamp north of Tortoise Hill was being prepared for the erection of iron works, the then popular kodaks were everywhere said to be spirit-stealing machines; for without a supply of human spirits, no iron works could be erected there! Nor have such superstitions been confined to China. China is rather the international museum where many a nation may find notions and customs familiar enough to its own remote ancestors.

A famous bridge, over a certain continental river, apparently dating back to Roman times, had to be rebuilt. And on getting down to the foundation, the stones were found to form a box in which was the skeleton of a child. That the Chinese may have had some such custom, where the soil was bad, seems probable from the general rumours current to-day. For how else could such a notion occur to them? Let us hope, however, that any national precedent for present day theories are, as in the case of "the foreigners," a couple of thousand years out of date.

5th June.

ICHANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE TWO GUNBOATS

arrived safely from Chungking on Saturday. Their steaming time on the way down was twenty-four hours, but by delays on the way it was the fourth day out before Ichang was reached. We were all very glad to see the boats back again safe and sound. They have accomplished what has been discussed and talked about for years. We hope the merchant steamers will be as successful in their trips up and down.

THE NEED OF RAIN.

The country is crying out for rain. The ricefields lack water and the plants cannot be transplanted. If rain come soon the already transplanted rice will be saved, but what has yet to be transplanted is useless. The people in the city are praying for rain. Pitchers of water, with small branches of willow stuck in them, are set outside the doors. Incense is kept burning in front of the vessel. Pig killing has been forbidden, so no pork is for sale on the streets.

THE DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL.

The 5th of the moon passed off peacefully. The Dragon Boat races were not held to any extent. Only a few small

boats joined in, none of the larger dragon boats. The heat is very oppressive and we are all longing for a cool change.

6th June.

KIANGYIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE POPULAR ATTITUDE.

Secret instructions were received here yesterday by the high military and local officials, from the Viceroy at Nanking, ordering these officials to use the utmost diligence in looking out for and arresting any propagandist of the Big Knife Society. They are further ordered to immediately execute, without reference to higher authorities, any members of this society that may be caught. So far as can be learned these measures are wholly precautionary. There is, apparently, absolute quiet among all classes here. However, it is well known that there are great numbers of disbanded soldiers in this and adjoining districts along the Yangtze, who live by their wits, at times resorting to more violent means. It is equally well known that this class would prove only too congenial participants in any disturbances that might arise. Kiangyin has justly gained a good name in the last two years for the courteous treatment accorded foreigners by all classes of the people. It is only of late that any abusive language has been heard, and then it was used by these men. Not only has this change in the treatment of foreigners taken place at Kiangyin, but your correspondent has observed the same in a trip lately taken through South Kiangsu and North Chékang provinces.

A SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT

has just come out in connection with the change of magistrates here, which has lately been announced at Sochow. The head man in the Grain Tax Department of Kiangyin, hearing of the change, went to Sochow to pay his respects to the new magistrate, Mr. Wu; but Mr. Wu refused to see him. Why? "Because Mr. —, Protestant missionary at Kiangyin, tells me you are an unworthy man!" Further, it is commonly reported that the new appointee to the Tax office is a Christian and has been appointed because he was recommended to Mr. Wu by the above missionary. What next?

THE "STATUS" OF MISSIONARIES.

In connection with the "political status of missionaries," this status has not only been accorded to them here by the officials, but it is thoroughly believed in by all classes. Consequently, no end of appeals have been and continue to be made to the missionaries to be allowed to enter the Church, because they are in some kind of dispute, or may be actual or threatened lawsuit. The idea being that, once in the Church, the enemy will be frightened off. In spite of every effort to oppose this idea by public announcements, posted notices and tracts scattered broadcast, there are not a few who falsely use the name of both the Catholic and Protestant missions for nefarious purposes. No official status has been assumed by the missionaries, and will not be. But they are on friendly terms with the local officials, whereas only a few years since two missionaries, with introductory letters from their Consul, were kept standing two hours at the door of the magistrate's yamen, asking to see the magistrate. Finally, when accorded this favour, the audience lasted only a few minutes when they were ordered by the magistrate to leave, in the most insulting manner. One of these men had been in China over twenty years and was widely known among the Chinese: a recognised sinologue, having besides a world-wide

reputation. He has lately been visited in court dress, at his home, by the very man who so grossly insulted him so short a time since. These things only point the way that some straws are flying.

The arrival of Mr. Wu, the new magistrate, formerly at Chingyanghsien, is expected daily; while Mr. Lien is anxious to be off to his substantive appointment at Ihsing.

THE SILK CROP

this year has been far below customary, more than half the silkworms having died between the first and second moulting period.

HARVESTING

of the wheat crop, which is quite up to the average, is nearly finished. Rain is anxiously looked for and much needed, this having been, so far, a very dry year.

8th June.

TIENTSIN.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

THE SITUATION

is unchanged, but has abated somewhat in its tenacity. Of the I-ho Ch'uan we hear nothing; since their escapade at Fengtai on Monday they have not been in evidence quâ Boxers.

THE LEGATION GUARDS

continue to pour into Tientsin, and so far all have come up by lighter and tow-boat, none by train. About five hundred and fifty in all have arrived: American 108, British 170, Japanese 30, Russian about 150 including a few (Siberian) Cossacks, France 75 and Italy 50. They have all been received with effusion, if not with acclamation, and were played to their quarters by the Town Band. The Germans have yet to come, and further numbers of Russians, French, Japanese and finally British are expected. The Barfleur with the Rear Admiral arrived to-day from Weihaiwei. Our men are mostly Orlandos and Algerines, and include a few of that rarest of British visitors in North China, midshipmen. There was the usual

ATTEMPT AT BLUFF

on the part of the Chinese to prevent them entraining, but when it was known they would go with or without permission, the opposition collapsed. It was given out that parties of thirty would not be objected to. Of course there was no counting, and the "thirty" ran anywhere between fifty and seventy. We hear to-day the men got comfortably up and marched into the city without incident. The British Legation, by far the most commodious, can take one hundred men at a pinch—fortunately the first secretary's house is unoccupied and some of the students have recently vacated their rooms, so there are more quarters than usual.

The opposition to landing is, of course chiefly "bluff" but it is also largely due to that bane of Chinese Official life—fear of responsibility. Each man fears to incur censure and refers the simplest matter to the man above him in endless series. The impatient foreigner naturally debits the delay to policy. It is here that people in Tientsin miss Li Hung-chang. Whatever his faults, the old Viceroy did not fear to act, and did not have recourse to the petty worry of delay and chicanery. A few of the larger-headed Chinese say the old man has been sent deliberately to the centre of the coming storm; that he has cautiously and unostentatiously disposed his troops over the best strategic centres in the Two Kuang, and is fairly well ready to nip the big imminent Southern Rebellion in the bud. Well-informed

CANTONESE

here say there has been a large migration of women and children to Singapore, and a large transfer of real property into personal, with a view to coming troubles.

THE MINISTERS' URGENT DEMANDS

to the Chinese, after the death of Brigadier Yang at Laishuai last week, are seen in the Edict of the day before yesterday. Although the Government still wobbles and temporises with the I-ho Chuan, it asserts that bad men have now joined the self-denying patriots, and are covering their nefarious designs by its ægis. This cannot be, therefore the Society is taboo, and magistrates are to act severely when such men are found, etc., etc.

It is stated on excellent authority here that the Ministers presented a united front to the Chinese, and plainly intimated:

(1) That if the Imperial Government refused to put down the Boxers, the Powers would do it themselves.

(2) That the ultra-reactionaries, to whose advice all the indecision is due, must be perpetually banished from office.

I need hardly state that corroboration of such news is as difficult as the news itself is improbable. It clearly originates, however, in a very serious situation, viz., the continued unwillingness of the Peking officials to act decisively after the astounding incidents of the last ten days. One conclusion is evident—they are either in collusion with the Boxers in a gigantic anti-foreign crusade, or they fear them. It is probably the latter.

THE PUBLIC MIND

(native) here is almost inconceivably excited. No rubbish is too preposterous for belief—the Boxers can fly, they can spit fire; even the most sober-minded, sensible Chinese are persuaded that they (the Boxers) are immune to steel and lead. The infection is running to craziness. Public mind is now sure that miracles could easily take place, and anything would find credit. The reaction will of course come soon, and Messieurs the Boxers will be discredited as much as they are now exalted. It is the excitement which is the real source of danger in Peking. The mob might, by one act of indiscretion, be led into causes which would end in disaster, especially as the soldiery is a doubtful quantity.

INCENDIARISM

is very rife in Tientsin just now. Fires are the order of the day, and there is some warranty for thinking them due to some organisation. Last night the Chartered Bank was again attempted—the second time in ten days, and but for prompt measures would have been destroyed. The adjacent building part of which is used for servants' quarters of the Bank was completely wrecked.

NEWS OF THE MURDERS.

The German marines have arrived at Taku Bar, but are not yet landed. I have to report that a ghastly rumour has arrived through native channels, viz., that the Belgian engineers who on Sunday last retreated down the Lu-Han towards Paotingfu in attempting to reach Tientsin by boat were attacked, that four were killed and thirty-six, including many women and children, wounded, also that a British missionary had been killed at Paotingfu.

LATER.

News is just in that a large party of British and American missionaries and Belgian engineers are 40 li distant from Tientsin in boats en route from Paotingfu, four dead, and four wounded. Armed parties of volunteers are leaving Tientsin to bring them in.

2nd June.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The situation in Peking has for the moment been relegated to the background in the greater excitement of

PROVINCIAL SEDITION

and the tale of the journey of the Belgian engineers down from Paotingfu. It has been extremely difficult to extract a clear story from the mass of rumours, exaggerations, and lies which have been pouring into Tientsin through native sources for days. When the poor victims themselves came in yesterday afternoon, their prostration was so great that it was impossible to get matters put right, but to-day the more robust have recovered strength and spirits and give information of which the following is a summary.

A party of thirty of the Lu-Han Railway engineers (including six ladies and one child) left Paoting in twelve boats under the escort of Director Cheng and a military force. They travelled for 150 li without disturbance but in passing through a lake missed the proper channel out and got inveigled into a shallow creek where they were surrounded by Boxers and fired on—one of the guns being a preposterous wooden cannon, which, however, wounded and hurt, if it did not kill. Just before fire was opened, the Chinese with them advised closing the windows, etc., and trying to sail past quickly, but the boats ran aground and the Boxers opened fire, led by men in coloured coats. The engineers at once lowered their windows and returned the fire with great effect, many men dropping to their guns, and one man being clubbed to death as he tried to scale the boat. The foreigners jumped out and shoved the boats afloat and over to the other side where the whole party landed. Mons. Ossent their leader (Swiss) and his sister Madame Astier with two others J. Pezzaro (Italian) Cadeis (Turkish) here got separated from the crowd. It is supposed that they acted on the advice of the interpreter and elected to try and return to Paotingfu. They have not been heard of by Europeans since (Wednesday, 31st May) and the very worst fears are entertained of their fate. The Chinese authorities both here and in Peking have telegrams saying Mons. Ossent was shot and decapitated and his sister killed and mutilated past all description. So much of the so-called news of the last week has been proved to be false that we hope this may be also, but the smallness of the party justifies fears. Their two companions are by the Chinese also reported to have been killed.

The twenty-six formed a square with the women inside and made due east towards Tientsin with all the speed they could, but ill-clad, ill-shod, and foodless. Water of sorts they got from pools and streams. They travelled as best they could avoiding villages, towns, etc., for 3½ days and fighting all the way. They expended more than 2,000 cartridges and are confident they killed one hundred men. As they could speak no Chinese and their interpreter had by this time bolted in fear—he is now under arrest in Tientsin—they were utterly helpless, and unable to distinguish friends from enemies. The men all behaved like heroes and carried the women and child when the latter broke down, one lady being very close on maternity.

On Saturday when thirty or forty li from Tientsin five of them appear to have lost all control from suffering and excitement. They got separated from the rest and disappeared. Two, M. Papasse (Greek) and Albertazzi (Italian) turned up at our Bund at 1 this morning (Sunday). One was badly wounded on the head by a sword cut and both utterly unable to account for themselves. The three others Messrs. Devinoux, Bouillon, Dillon (French)

are unaccounted for, making seven in all missing.

News of the awful plight of the refugees was wired by the Chinese yesterday, and an expedition of 25 mounted volunteers, and 10 men on foot with food and restoratives set out at 11 a.m. yesterday. The mounted men went round the city and so missed the fugitives, the others met them, and Mr. Ketels, (Belgian Consul) and Dr. Dapasse at once got them into 'riches and brought them in a deplorable state into the Settlement.

Mr. Lipmann is shot in the leg and has seven wounds in the shoulder and head; one of the ladies is shot through the shoulder, and several others have shot and other wounds. Their escape is really wonderful, and shows what determination and courage can do in adverse circumstances against men like the Boxers. The blackguards soon discovered the superiority of the foreign arms and kept a respectful distance, though they tried to snipe the party at night.

To-day most of the sufferers have recovered equanimity and strength, and an exact and coherent account of their experiences will be forthcoming. The relief mounted party came back at midnight, but the French and Belgian Consuls on hearing the exact localities where the five and four left the refugees speedily arranged with the Russian authorities that the thirty Cossacks, here as part of the Russian Guard, should at once set out to search for them. It is understood that the Chinese have protested against this step, but they were told the time had passed for such protests. I need not point out the very grave political complications that may follow if the Cossacks are fired at, as they probably will be, by Boxers if not by the regular soldiery. We may be confident that there will be no half measures in the reprisals.

This is not all. The native Christians at the Church of England Mission at Langfang, half way up the line between Tientsin and Peking, have been in grave danger from the Boxers. Messrs. Norman and Robinson refused to leave them, thinking that their departure would mean the massacre of their people. A telegram is in to-night stating that a native (Christian) has brought the news to Yangtsun that Mr. Robinson has been done to death, and Mr. Norman has been taken to the yamen at Yungching for safety. We can only hope this is one of the panic-stricken rumours which fill all the country side, Mr. Robinson came out two years ago with the late Mr. Brooks, who was so barbarously murdered in Shantung in the winter.

Bishop Scott and Mr. Norris have to-day returned from T'aian in Shantung, and report things quiet there. Mr. Norris has gone up to investigate at Langfang.

Admiral Seymour arrived at Taku on Saturday in the Centurion. He came up here for consultation with Mr. Carles to-day, but has returned outside the bar to-night. The French Admiral has also left. There are said to be nineteen war vessels outside. We are in complete ignorance as to what may be taking place in the numerous outlying mission stations in the province. There are especially many anxieties about Paotingfu where there are two extensive American and one English missions.

There is no reason whatever for anxiety about Tientsin. We are fairly well able to care for ourselves, and we have at present two or three hundred sailors and marines. The folk in the native city are, however, almost beyond self-control in their excitement and clever rogues are exercising their ingenuity to intensify this feeling. The last device is to smear the outer doors of the houses with an imitation of blood. This was done also last night in a foreign-owned village close to the Concessions. Another trick is to spread an alarm of incendiarism. The ordinary criminal po-

pulation is of course finding its chance in the position of affairs. Last night a cash shop adjoining the settlements was raided.

IN PEKING

things are again quiet, and less anxiety is felt now that the native soldiery has been withdrawn. The orders not to employ force in opposing the foreign guards entering the capital were only issued a few hours before the men arrived. The Chinese were told "opposition or no, they are coming." Similarly at Tientsin the vice-regal permission for thirty of each nationality to entrain was only given when the men were on the platform with their own drivers, etc., all ready to take charge of the train. The old policy of "bluff" is on trial all round; but things have gone too far to give any heed to it.

3rd June.

THE RUSSIAN MOVEMENTS.

I have just heard that the Cossacks came back last night with an officer and two men wounded. The Boxers barred their way at Toli from Tientsin. The Russians rode through them three times, killing sixteen and wounding many. Lieut. Blonsky's horse fell, and that officer was wounded in many places with spears. One of the men had his nose all but cut off. The Boxers were badly armed, but clearly proved their belief in their own invulnerability. They made their mystic passes before the attack and were largely composed of mere lads—over one hundred in all. They fought with courage. In addition to spears some carried heavy swords.

The station at Hungtsun, ten miles on this side of Fengtai, was fired last night, and the bridge broken to that communication with Peking. The wires with Paotingfu are cut, and very grave anxieties are felt for the safety of the eleven—American eight and British three—missionaries there.

The news from Yungching is confirmed, Mr. Robinson is killed, also five native Christians. Mr. Norman is a prisoner in the hands of a man who has already suffered punishment as an anti-Christian, and it is feared will take vengeance on him.

The Chinese have a report to which little credit is given, that the old Empress with the Emperor and Heir-Apparent has fled.

4th June.

TSINGTAO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SEVERE STORM.

A terrible thunderstorm with heavy rain passed last Saturday over Tsingtao. The damage done by it is estimated at several hundred thousand dollars. The government buildings besides many other private buildings and goodowns were all unroofed and damaged. Some thirty Chinese, mostly fishermen, lost their lives in the storm. The shore, after the storm had passed on Saturday, was covered with lighters, sampans, boats, and wood.

Stamp collectors will be interested in a new provisional issue of a halfpenny stamp. The issue will last only a short time and then the new colonial stamps will make their appearance.

1st June.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."—Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. Beware of worthless imitations.

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WEHSIEN, SHANTUNG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE PROSPECTING FOR COAL,

south of this city, under the charge of proficient German engineers, has not been in vain. Owing to the volcanic formation the coal occurs at irregular intervals, having been wrested from its original position by subterranean forces. Ten days ago one of the drills disclosed a seam or deposit of coal five metres in thickness. That there is fairly good coal is an assured fact, but the extent of the field and the practicability of mining in so irregularly laid strata, are matters still to be determined.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION

goes on merrily, now that the Kaomi-ites have stopped rioting. Survey stakes are still reported as mysteriously disappearing, but this is to be expected so long as fuel commands such high prices. We must differentiate between a farmer's desire for a cooked breakfast and his antipathy to the railway. Last week Mr. Hildebrandt was in the city getting bids from Chinese contractors for the stone work on the proposed bridge across the Pailangho (White-wolf River), which flows past the town. Like many Shantung streams it has more width than depth, and delights to convert the adjacent country into a sandy desert. Just what effect this has on the problem of bridge construction I am unable to state. Fortunately, the banks of this little stream are high, even if they are not very stable. The river in question is not so innocent as it seems. I once saw it flood the entire east suburb of Wehsien with a depth of 18 feet in the channel. That was in 1888, when 150 people were drowned in this city alone.

29th May.

WUCHANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SUSPECTED KIDNAPPERS LYNCHED.

An ugly rumour is current amongst some of the Chinese that in order to make the bridges of the Peking-Hankow railway secure it is necessary to bury the bodies of children under the foundations. As foreigners are building the railway they are consequently supposed to be in want of children to strengthen their bridges. The result was that yesterday three unhappy men who were suspected of kidnapping children were lynched in Wuchang. One was drowned, a second was stoned, and the third hacked to pieces.

AN OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION.

The officials have put out a proclamation, which we have not ourselves seen, but are told that the purport of it is that if any men are suspected of such crimes as kidnapping children, the people must not take the law into their own hands, but must send the culprits to the officials, who will examine and punish them.

Similar rumours are current in Hankow and we hear that some men were in like manner lynched there, but up to the present we have not been able to verify the latter statement.

5th June.

WHITE AND SOUND TEETH.

ROWLAND'S ODOXTO is the best and purest dentifrice, being warranted free from any acid or gritty ingredients; it whitens and preserves the teeth, it eradicates the formation of tartar, removes spots of incipient decay, polishes and preserves the enamel, sweetens the breath, induces a healthy action of the gums, causing them to assume the brightness and colour indicative of perfect soundness. ROWLAND'S ESSENCE OF TYRE is the best preparation for dyeing the hair a permanent brown or black. Ask Stores and Chemists for ROWLAND'S articles, of 67, Hatton Garden, London.

NOTES FROM THE SOUTH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE PAST WEEK

has been quiet and unevenful. The weather has been moist and at one time very hot, rising on the 29th ult. to 88° Fahr. In the afternoon of that day, however, heavy rain fell, which continued in the night, aggregating over 3 inches, causing a welcome drop, since when the temperature has ranged between 79° and 82°, and is now fairly cool.

THE MEMBER FOR THE CHAMBER.

Quite a little sensation was caused early in the week by the report that Mr. Herbert Smith, senior partner in the well known firm of Butterfield & Swire, had severed his connection with the firm. It was only a few weeks since that Mr. Smith was unanimously nominated by the Chamber of Commerce to represent them in the Legislative Council, and the forthcoming issue of the "Government Gazette" will, I presume, contain the notification of his resignation. The severance of Mr. Herbert Smith from public life in the Colony is generally regretted as he has gained a high reputation for business acumen. Rumour points to Mr. John Thurlburn, manager of the Mercantile Bank, as the probable successor of Mr. Smith in the Legislative Council.

MISS ALLEYNE'S FAREWELL CONCERT.

Miss Muriel Alleyne, late of the Dallas Company, gave her farewell concert on the 26th ult, before a well-filled house. Miss Alleyne was assisted by Mr. Alec Marsh and Mr. A. G. Ward and some Hongkong amateurs. The fair songstress was the recipient of numerous bouquets and well merited applause.

TROOPING THE COLOURS.

So much interest was evinced in the trooping of the colours on the Queen's birthday by the Royal Welsh Fusiliers that it has been arranged by the Military authorities that the ceremony shall be repeated by the Hongkong Regiment on Whit-Monday, on the new Parade ground, at 6 p.m. The regiment only received their colours two or three years ago, and they are yet, I think, unadorned with any battle record. They might, however, be allowed to inscribe Taipo on them, in remembrance of the gallant manner in which they cleared the Hinterland of some thousands of hostile Chinese when the territory was first taken possession of last April.

THE HOUSING OF THE TROOPS.

The prevalence of the plague at Wanchai has induced the military authorities to remove the Hongkong Royal Artillery, who were lodged in the Macgregor Barracks, to canvas in the Iyemoo Pass, and it is reported that these barracks, which are only converted godowns, rented for the purpose, will not be re-occupied. It is also stated that the half battalion of the Welsh Fusiliers, quartered in Murray Barracks, are to be sent to the new Barracks on Gun Club Hill, Kowloon, while the Murray Barracks are overhauled as to drainage, etc.

THE PHILIPPINE COMMISSION.

Mr. David Gillies, the manager of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd., entertained as his guests in the tugboat Fame the Philippine Commissioners and a large party of Hongkong residents on the 29th ult. Mrs. Day and Taipo in the New Territory were visited and an enjoyable day spent. There was a considerable flow of oratory after tiffin and various British and American toasts proposed and heartily responded to.

THE JUBILEE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

In August last a general meeting of the subscribers to the Public Memorial was held when the Chairman stated that the

Committee were then in a position to commence the Hospital and Nursing Institute. Tenders were called for, but the lowest was 50 per cent in excess of the architects' estimate. Fresh tenders were called for and, a reasonable one being obtained, a contract was entered into for the erection of the Hospital on Barker Road. Since then the Committee had found it impossible to proceed owing to the rise in prices and in labour. They have reported this to the Government and pointed out that as quarters will be provided for a resident surgeon a saving of \$720 per annum would be effected, bringing in, at 5 per cent \$14,000, which available balance would be handed over to the Nursing Institute. Winding up the Government could obtain the permission of the Secretary of State to the erection of this, and the payment for it out of the revenues of the Colony. The work of preparing the site for the Hospital has been commenced and the Committee hope there will be no further delay in gaining the sanction of Downing Street to this scheme for commemorating Her Majesty's 60 years' reign.

THE JUBILEE MEMORIAL ROAD.

The Secretary of State has given his sanction to the making of the Diamond Jubilee Road, on condition that the plans and route marked out by the military authorities are strictly adhered to. The Jubilee Committee see no reason why these conditions should not be complied with and, as there has already been great delay, strongly urge the commencement of the work as soon as possible, they also further hope that if the Public Works Department are too short-handed to commence work immediately, the matter be referred back to them with the view to the employment of a local firm of engineers, the Director of Public Works exercising a general supervision. I fear, however, this work will prove a sad waste of money. The road, as sanctioned, will be nearly a hundred feet above the shore level, it will pass close to, if not through, the Chinese and plague cemeteries, will be in the eye of the setting sun, and will open up no new country to speak of, as the Pokfulam Road takes almost the same course, with the exception of going round Mount Davis, the great Chinese burial ground. A few cyclists and fewer horsemen will use it, but I doubt whether it will be any other use as the entire route is more or less malarious and will therefore be useless for building purposes.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

In this department there is little of special interest to record. The United States troopship Hancock arrived here on the 26th ult. from San Francisco, having on board the members of the Philippine Commission. The British gunboat Linnet arrived on the 29th idem from Singapore and the cruiser Undaunted on the 30th from Weihaiwei. The American transport Zafiro came in on the 30th from Manila, and on the 31st idem the U. S. battleship Oregon arrived from Nagasaki and went into dock at Kowloon. The new little river gunboat Robin reached Wuchow on the 26th ult. The U. S. flagship Brooklyn left here on the 26th ult. for Manila. The receiving ship Tamar was towed over to Kowloon Docks on the 31st ult., for overhaul. The American troopship Hancock and storeship Zafiro left here yesterday for Manila.

WATERWORKS FOR CANTON.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has given permission to Mr. Ho Sow-kai and other Hongkong Chinamen to establish waterworks for Canton and suburbs. It is believed the promoters will start a limited liability company in order to carry out this gigantic scheme. The water will be taken from the Chang Po which is considered fairly pure.

Hongkong, 2nd June.

LONDON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE SPION KOP TELEGRAMS.

Something like bewilderment has been caused by the issue of the telegrams which passed between Lord Roberts and the War Office on the subject of the publication of the Spion Kop dispatches. It is, of course, a most unusual step to print such telegrams as these, which are on the face of them confidential documents. But Mr. Balfour announced that they would be published to clear up certain misconceptions. The so-called "misconceptions" referred to were no doubt the very prevalent opinions that the Government had blundered very seriously in publishing the Spion Kop dispatches to the world at this juncture, and that they had perhaps acted without the concurrence of Lord Roberts. The telegrams just published certainly show that Lord Roberts did express a formal concurrence in the publication of the dispatches when no other course was open to him; but in all other respects they intensify, instead of allaying, the feeling that the War Office blundered most grossly, and worse than blundered, over the matter of the publication of these dispatches. For they show that not only are the War Office and the Government solely to blame for a step which must have impaired the authority of generals who are maintained in their position, but that they actually suggested to Sir Redvers Buller, through Lord Roberts, that he should cook up a dispatch for the mystification of the British public. To General Buller's honour he protested against such a course, even though its object was to prevent the publication of the unfavourable criticisms which Lord Roberts had passed upon him. The whole subject is to be debated in the House of Commons to-night, and it seems likely that the Government will have a pretty rough time of it. The mystery is why the Government having blundered in the way they did, should gratuitously have adopted this means of proclaiming to the world the full extent of their blunder.

THE "POWERFULS" AT WINDSOR.

On Monday the Bluejackets and Marines of H.M.S. Powerful who contributed so splendidly to the defence of Ladysmith, or fought gallantly with Lord Methuen on the other side of the seat of war, are to be reviewed in the Horse Guards and to have a triumphal march into the City, there to be entertained by the Committee of Lloyd's at the Royal Exchange, and meanwhile they have paid a visit to the Queen at Windsor and have received from the inhabitants of the Royal borough a foretaste of the welcome which awaits them in London. After an inspection by Her Majesty in the Quadrangle of the Castle the men were regaled with an excellent feast finishing up with a hundred bottles of fine old port from the Queen's cellar in which they drank their sovereign's health. But their greatest reward was doubtless the admiration and enthusiasm of their sovereign and the cheering crowds through which they made their progress through the town. The award of decorations in connection with the war has already begun. On the occasion of Sir George White's visit to Windsor he was decorated with the Grand Cross of the Victorian Order; and on Wednesday Her Majesty conferred the C.B. on Captain Lambton of the Powerful.

TO HONOUR THE COLONIES.

Almost daily the Australian delegates who are here to discuss the Commonwealth Bill are feasted by one or other of the great clubs and institutions of the country; but the most brilliant of these banquets was that given by the British Empire League at the Hotel Cecil under the

presidency of the Duke of Devonshire on Monday. It was not given solely in honour of the Delegates. Combined with that object was another, of expressing the gratitude of the League and through them the gratitude of the country, for the splendid assistance which has been rendered to us by the Colonies in the prosecution of the war in South Africa. Among the hosts and guests were the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, the Duke of Cambridge, the Marquis of Salisbury, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, and the Duke of Fife, not to mention a legion of other distinguished people. The great speech of the evening was made by the Prime Minister, after whom the Colonial Secretary fell comparatively flat. Lord Salisbury had no startling announcement to make—no new policy to unfold, and no victory at the front to announce. He deprecated any attempt to force on Imperial Federation by "artificial contrivances;" but he enlarged in very felicitous language on the manner in which all parts of the Empire had been welded together by the war. "When men have fought," he said, "when they have risked their lives, when they have allowed their blood to flow for a common cause, under a common flag, in enthusiasm for a common Queen they have sentiments for each other which no other emotions can efface. . . . They are linked together by a link that can never break."

THE PRINCE AND THE PEOPLE.

Although Lord Salisbury's was the greatest speech of the evening, in some respects the most interesting was that of the Prince of Wales. The Duke of Devonshire, in proposing the Prince's health, had referred to the recent attack on his Royal Highness's life at Brussels; and the storm of cheering which greeted the Prince on his rising was a remarkable tribute to his personal popularity. The Prince was evidently deeply touched by the affectionate respect with which he was greeted; and his voice was quite broken with emotion. He nevertheless spoke exceedingly well; and the cheers with which his speech was received especially when he referred to the bravery of the colonial troops and his hope that this war would soon be over, were genuine and hearty. There was, by the way, a remarkable demonstration of the Prince's popularity among his tenants and neighbours in Norfolk when he returned home after his trip to the Continent. They had nearly all gathered to meet him on his arrival, and the horses were taken from his carriage to make way for some of the more athletic of his admirers, who dragged the carriage nearly all the way from Wolferton to Sandringham.

THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

It appears that things are not going quite so smoothly as was hoped in regard to the differences that have arisen between the Delegates and the Government on the subject of the Australian Commonwealth Bill. It was hoped that the Delegates and those whom they represent had reconciled themselves to the British Parliament modifying the Bill so far as concerns the clause relating to appeals to the Privy Council; but it appears that this is not the case, and that any modification whatever of the Bill will be deeply resented in Australia. It is admitted that Mr. Chamberlain's proposed new Imperial Court of Appeal removes much of the objection which was felt to appeals home, and that if this Court had been in existence when the Commonwealth Bill was framed, the difficulty would never have arisen. But they urge with some show of reason that if the colonists are capable of passing their own laws, their judges should be capable of interpreting those laws without reference to the judges at home. And even those who are in favour of an appeal home urge that the Federation scheme will be seriously delayed if the Commonwealth Bill is not passed in its en-

tirety. It is suggested that if this were done an amending Act could subsequently be passed; and a compromise on this basis is not improbable. No serious objection would be felt in this country to such a course. The appeal home is no doubt a valuable link of Empire, but there are others still more valuable, and most people would be willing to dispense with this one rather than imperil in the smallest degree the good feeling which now exists between the Australian colonies and the mother country.

THE PLAGUE OF WOMEN.

Mr. Treves, the great surgeon who has just returned from South Africa, has made a big sensation by a speech which he delivered at a banquet given to Sir William MacCormac and himself by their fellow-members of the Reform Club on Saturday. Mr. Treves said that the sick and wounded in South Africa suffered from two plagues, the plague of flies and the plague of women. He did not refer of course to the trained nurses, who are genuine ministering angels, but to the amateur nurses, the ladies of fashion who, as Mr. Treves puts it, have gone out to South Africa after exhausting other means of excitement. "The picture of a number of elaborately dressed ladies," he said, "masquerading in summer costumes and arranging picnics is really a blot on the campaign." Private letters received here from nurses more than confirm the truth of this picture. Some of these fine ladies, they say, obtain through influence official positions at the hospitals and hospital camps, and make it very uncomfortable for the nurses, whom they treat as a kind of servants.

A BY-ELECTION.

In home politics there is still practically no interest, but a little excitement has been caused by the by-election at Portsmouth, where Mr. Clough, one of the Liberal Members, had created a vacancy by retiring. Mr. Alfred Harnsworth, who was one of the Conservative candidates at the General Election, did not put up again; but a candidate was found in Mr. J. H. A. Majendie, the son of a former M. P. and a near relative of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres. The result was a Liberal victory by nearly 600 votes; but this is no doubt due less to any dissatisfaction with the Government than to the great personal popularity of the Radical candidate, Mr. T. A. Brimston, a local solicitor, who has interested himself largely in all the concerns of the town.

4th May.

THE "POWERFULS" IN LONDON.

In any circumstances the men of the Naval Brigade who rendered such magnificent service at the siege of Ladysmith would have been sure of an enthusiastic welcome in London; but the ebullition of public feeling on Monday was doubtless all the greater, because the visit was made at a time when our spirits had been raised by the news of Lord Roberts's victorious advance from Bloemfontein towards Kroonstad. No jubilee procession, nor any other pageant within living memory, has attracted such crowds or such cheering as greeted the bluejackets and marines during their march from Victoria Station to the Horseguards and the Admiralty, then to the Royal Exchange, and finally to London Bridge Station. All London seemed to have flocked to the line, and at some points the police were for a time powerless to make a way for the men. Captain Lambton and his officers, though they looked pleased enough, maintained of course that self-possession and calmness of demeanour which it is a point of honour with officers to exhibit when the public eye is upon them; but the men in many cases did not attempt to conceal the fact that they were as excited and as jubilant as the

men who cheered. Altogether they had a capital time. On their arrival at the Horse Guards they were served with refreshments before the arrival of the Prince of Wales to inspect them; they had a good substantial dinner at the Admiralty while their officers and the Royal and distinguished guests were lunching with Mr. Goschen; and then they had a tea at the Royal Exchange at the invitation of "Lloyd's," who also provided a little amusement for them and presented each man with a silver tobacco box.

THE SPION KOP DISPATCHES.

It cannot be said that the Government came brilliantly out of the debates which took place in both Houses of Parliament on Friday night, on the subject of the publication of the Spion Kop dispatches. Lord Lansdowne entered into an elaborate defence of himself and his department in the House of Lords, and Mr. Wyndham in the House of Commons; but while Peers and Commoners had no hesitation in accepting the assurance of the Minister for War that he had no intention of inviting General Buller to write a "bogus" dispatch, in order to deceive the British public, neither he nor his Under-Secretary in the other House succeeded in convincing their hearers that they had acted wisely in publishing either the dispatches or the remarkable telegrams which passed between Lord Roberts and the War Office in respect to their publication. The vote of censure, as it practically was, which was moved by Mr. Runciman in the Lower House was of course rejected by a strictly party vote; but most people will agree with Mr. Arnold Morley, the Unionist Member for West Belfast, who, in a letter to the "Times," says he is persuaded that if the vote had been by ballot, and had not involved the existence of the Government, there would not have been a dozen members in the "No" Lobby in addition to the occupants of the Front Bench.

LORD SALISBURY ON THE DEFENCE OF THE EMPIRE.

A great Primrose League gathering at the Albert Hall on Wednesday provided Lord Salisbury with the first opportunity which he has taken for a very long time of delivering a great political platform speech. Apart from a brief reference to the bearing of the South African trouble on the Home Rule question, he devoted his speech almost entirely to the question of the dangers which menace us in the future and the need of guarding against them. On the first point he said the Transvaal had taught us how a disloyal Government can, in spite of all precautions accumulate munitions of war against us. "We now know better than we did ten years ago," he said, "what the risk would be if we gave to a disloyal Government in Ireland the power of accumulating forces against the sovereignty of the Queen." On the question of the dangers that threaten us from abroad he took a somewhat gloomy view. "Elements and causes of menace and peril," he said "are accumulating, though slowly, and may accumulate to such a point as to require most earnest and active effort to repel them." He declared conscription impossible and urged the Primrose League to encourage voluntary effort, especially by the creation of rifle clubs. He urges the country to place itself by such voluntary effort in the position of an armed nation "such a nation as the Swiss, or seek their strength, not in brilliant negotiations or military organisation, but in the spirit and preparation of those who loved their country and were prepared to die for it."

THE ROYAL ACADEMY BANQUET.

It was quite another sort of speech which the noble Marquis delivered on the previous Saturday at the annual banquet of

the Royal Academy. Lord Salisbury always manages to show at these banquets that politics and his favourite science do not monopolise his interests—that he has a true feeling for art, and original views in regard to it. He does not satisfy himself with the eloquently worded platitudes which are all that many political orators can produce when they have to talk about art. This time the subject which the Prime Minister enlarged upon—since the war permeates everything—was the artistic possibilities of khaki. Mr. Goschen had commiserated with the painters on having “lost for ever the possibilities of glowing colours” for future battle pictures. But Lord Salisbury does not share in this commiseration. “I wish khaki well in its future career,” he said, “I shall not be sorry if it protects us from that blazing flood of scarlet which occasionally invades these walls.” Altogether it was an exceptionally brilliant gathering, brilliant as these Royal Academy banquets always are. The King of Sweden was among the many Royal guests; and Rudyard Kipling, just returned from South Africa, was there, though, not being fond of public speaking, he left it to the Master of Trinity to respond for literature.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY SHOW.

Most of the critics are agreed that it is a good Academy exhibition distinctly above the average of recent years. The picture which will probably be regarded by visitors generally as the best of the show is Mr. Abbey's “Trial of Queen Katherine,” though Mr. Frank Dicksee's “Two Crowns” will probably run it hard. They are both great works. Mr. Abbey has expended an enormous amount of labour on his scene from Shakespeare's Henry VIII, which indeed only failed to appear in last year's exhibition because the artist would not allow himself to be hurried with it. It is like most of Mr. Abbey's works, somewhat high in colouring—rich in reds—but yet harmonious. It is full of character and tells its story admirably. Frank Dicksee's work is of higher poetical aim. The central figure is a young monarch who, in the midst of a triumphal march, is arrested by the sight of a wayside cross, with the figure of Christ crowned with thorns. The expression of his face as he weighs earthly against spiritual glory has been admirably conceived; and the work, which has, I believe, been purchased by the Chantry bequest, well deserves a permanent place in our national collection of British Art. The work, however, which is regarded by expert critics as the greatest in the show is Mr. Sargent's portrait group of Lady Elcho, Mrs. Adeane, and Mrs. Tennant, the three beautiful daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Wyndham, and granddaughters of the Earl of Leconfield. The picture has been declared superior to some of the best work of Millais, and equal to that of Reynolds.

A portrait group which, however, will attract even more attention is that of the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York and the young Prince Edward. It has been painted by Mr. Orchardson for the Royal Agricultural Society, and Sir Walter Gilbey, who started the fund by which it was secured, has expressed the hope that it may at some future time be called “Four Royal Presidents,” for he hopes that the little Prince will inherit his forefathers' interest in agriculture and succeed to the position which they have all held as President of the Society.

The show is very rich, too, in its sculpture. Mr. Onslow Ford's colossal equestrian statue of the Maharajah of Mysore is so huge that it was impossible to get it into the building, and it therefore has a place in the courtyard of Burlington House in front of the entrance to the Academy, where it is seen to great advantage. A fine work, however, is Mr. Brock's tomb of

Lord Leighton, with recumbent effigy of the deceased President, which is to be placed in St. Paul's Cathedral.

11th May.

THE UNITED STATES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE CHINA COMMISSION.

Evidence of the value which this country is fast coming to attach to the prospective market in China is given in the Bill, now in Congress, for the appointment of a commission to investigate trade opportunities in that land. The Bill has already passed the Senate and has received favourable attention in the House, so that its passage seems now a matter of course. The Bill provides for five commissioners who will be paid salaries of not less than \$6,000 a year. It specifically denominates that one commissioner shall be appointed from each of the great divisions of the country—Eastern, Middle, Southern, Western, and Pacific coast.

Congress, in providing for the commission, is acting in accordance with the recommendation of the President's message. The commission, as the message points out, is “to study the commercial and industrial conditions in the Chinese Empire and report as to the opportunities for and obstacles to the enlargement of markets in China for the raw products and manufactures of the United States.”

It will be “the duty of the commission to ascertain what of the products of our farms, mills, and workshops may be sold there, and how these should be manufactured, packed, and shipped, as well as the proper methods of transacting the business, so as largely to increase their use and consumption; to do the same work in the Empire of Japan and in such other adjacent countries in Eastern Asia as the commission shall deem advisable.”

THE EFFORT TO FOSTER AMERICAN SHIPPING.

Some advance sheets from the annual reports of the United States consular officers in China have just been issued from Washington and they all breathe enthusiasm with regard to American trade in China during the past twelvemonth and confidence in the future. Naturally the trade in cotton goods shows the most marked advance. Complaint is made, however, that the carrying on of this commerce is done by the ships of other nations.

The Republicans in Congress this session attempted to do something to stimulate the American merchant marine. The attempt took the form of a Bill introduced by Senator Frye of Maine and hence commonly known as the Frye Bill. It was favourably reported to both branches of Congress, but it has now been decided to defer its discussion and disposition until the next session of Congress which will come in December of this year. The reason lies in the fact that the Democrats, who have opposed the measure as a party, threaten indefinite debate on this and other important measures, thereby making it impossible to adjourn by the middle of June as is now expected. Another very good reason for its postponement is that, in the space of the few months intervening between now and the presidential election, the law would not have opportunity to show its merits and the Democrats would thus gain good campaign material.

LARGE SUBSIDIES.

The Bill, which will undoubtedly come up again at the next session, provides for the payment of a subsidy to all American ships in foreign commerce; those built abroad but owned in America to have one-half the rate of subsidy paid to those both built and owned in this country. The Bill further provides that not more than \$9,000,000 shall be expended in subsidies

during any one year. So small is the tonnage of American-owned ships now that under the provisions of this law not more than \$3,000,000 would be expended in the next year if the Bill went into immediate effect, and it is estimated that it would be four or five years before the \$9,000,000 mark was reached.

While the principle of subsidies or bounties is one which has little precedent in this country, and one which has provoked strong opposition when carried into effect hitherto, still it is likely that something will be done to encourage and aid American shipping.

McKINLEY, BRYAN AND DEWEY.

The political situation is gradually shaping itself for the coming campaign. McKinley and Bryan are still the logical and by all means probable candidates of the Republican and Democratic parties respectively, with Dewey an unknown quantity. He has not yet given out his pronouncement of his views and policy which he promised shortly after his blunt announcement of his candidacy. Neither has it been learned who, if any, are behind Dewey in his action. Theories and surmises have one after another been demolished. Perhaps the most plausible one advanced is that some of the eastern Democratic leaders who are opposed to the silver plank in the Democratic platform of 1896 are using Dewey as a threat in order to secure a more acceptable declaration on the money question at the Democratic convention this year.

Dewey is now on a trip through the West which includes Chicago and St. Louis, and has been greeted with the greatest enthusiasm, though distinctly as the victorious admiral and not as the presidential candidate.

THE U. S. CLAIM ON TURKEY.

Public attention has been turned with considerable interest of late in the direction of Turkey, for the United States has just made a demand upon that Government in a form little short of an ultimatum. The demand is for the settlement of the claims of American missionaries for injuries and losses sustained by them during the Armenian massacres. The total of the claim is \$90,000, and its justice has long ago been acknowledged by the Sultan. That monarch proposed some little time ago, when the importunities of this country's representatives became pressing, that he should order a cruiser to be built in the United States and should allow the \$90,000 to be included in the price of the vessel. This proposal was immediately rejected by this government as being but a means of dodging or delaying settlement. Last week a note was handed to the Sultan, couched in peremptory terms, and demanding immediate payment of the indemnity. The note specifies, however, no date within which payment must be made. No answer to it has as yet been received.

Boston, Mass., 5th May.

NEVER DESPAIR of being able to overcome the troubles of this world, for they will disappear like dew before the sun if we only look them squarely in the face. If you are afflicted with any bodily disease, give Holloway's Pills and Ointment a trial; they will afford speedy relief, and in time effect a cure. They are the best known remedies for all complaints. During the summer months many people are afflicted with bowel and liver disorders, diarrhoea, dysentery, colic, low fevers, etc. These remedies are unequalled in such cases, and should therefore be the *Vade Mecum* of all who value sound health. They may be procured from all chemists and medicine vendors.

Peking Gazette.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTE.

Specially translated for the North-China Herald.

14th, March.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) Têng Hua-hsi, Governor of Anhui, is hereby transferred to the Governorship of Kueichow vice Wang Yu-tsao deceased, and Yü Hsien, Manchu, is appointed Governor of Shansi, his substantive post of Governor of Shantung being given to Yuan Shih-K'ai now there as acting Governor.

(2) Liu Yung-fu (the ex-Black-flag Chief) is appointed Brigadier-General of the Chiehshih Circuit of Kuangtung province, and Chang Min-hsin is appointed in the same capacity to the Nanyang Circuit of Honan province.

(3) Hu Chien-shu is appointed prefect of Ichou, province of Shantung.

15th March.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) Hua Chin-shou is appointed Junior Vice-President of the Board of Works with control over the Imperial mints.

(2) Li Tien-lin is appointed acting Senior Vice-President of the said Board of Works.

16th March.

Decree commanding the Board of Civil Appointments to report upon a memorial of the Board of Revenue requesting rewards for officials engaged in transporting the annual contributions of the various provinces to the provincial governments of Kansu and Chinese Turkestan.

17th March.

Two decrees commanding that the names of a number of the subordinate officers of the various Boards and the Imperial Household Department be recorded in the Grand Council Books for future promotion for good conduct and diligence in duty during the past three years.

18th March.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) In a former decree we had already honoured a number of our high officials of the first grade, who have passed the age of seventy, by granting them gifts in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of our birth, which takes place this year. There is, however, Jên Tao-yung, Director-General of the Yellow River, who has passed the age of eighty and is still energetic, bright and diligent in his duties, who has not been honoured as yet. We therefore grant him, as a mark of extraordinary grace, a tablet with the character "Shou" (Longevity) written by our own hands, and also an embroidered full-dress Court robe in commemoration of the occasion.

(2) Yuan Shu-hsun is appointed prefect of Tientsin and its dependencies.

19th March.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) Fu Ch'i (Manchu) is appointed Sub-Chancellor of the Grand Secretariat with the brevet rank of a Vice-President of the Board of Rites.

(2) Fu Shun (Manchu) is appointed Assistant Military Governor of Shanhaikuan vice Su Lu-tai, who is ordered to remain at Peking in command of one of the regiments of the Peking Field Force.

20th March.

Decree appointing a large number of officials to substantive posts in the various provincial administrations.

21st March.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) Hu Tsu-ying is appointed a secretary of the Office of Transmission of State Papers, etc.

(2) Hsi Hêng (Manchu) is appointed prefect of Chêngtê, Chihli province.

(3) Lin Hsin-kêng is appointed prefect of Kungch'angfu, Kansu province.

(4) Hsiang Yao (Manchu) is appointed Commissioner of the Imperial Silk-loom at Nanking.

22nd March.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) With reference to the denunciation of Liu Shu-t'ang, Governor of Chêkiang, by the Censor Chêng Chàng (Manchu) concerning which matter we deputed Hsi Ying-kuei, Viceroy of the Min-Chê provinces, to investigate, and whose report thereon we ordered the Board of Civil Appointments to consider the other day and find out what penalties are due by law to the said Governor [vide Imperial Decree of 9th March], the said Board now states that, by law, the said Governor of Chêkiang ought to be cashiered and dismissed from office for his misdemeanours. We, however, exercise our prerogative of mercy and hereby commute the said sentence to loss of rank but with retention of his present post.

(2) We have received a memorial from the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Board of Works stating that they have succeeded in economising and cutting down the expenses of the Pao-yuan Cash mint during the past twelve months, saving thereby Tls. 28,000, odd, for the year. They now suggest that of this sum Tls. 8,000, odd, be kept by the said Board for current expenses of the said mint during the year following, and ask to be allowed to present Tls. 20,000 to the Imperial Exchequer. The request is granted and we hereby command that the high officials immediately concerned in effecting this economy, namely, Ying Nien and Hua Chin-shou (Manchu and Chinese), Junior Vice-Presidents of the said Board of Works, be rewarded by being handed to the Board of Civil Appointments for the determination of extraordinary rewards.

23rd March.

No papers of interest.

24th March.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

Some time ago we received a memorial from Wên Hai (Manchu), Imperial Resident at Lhasa, Tibet, reporting that the Tibetan tribes inhabiting the Upper, Middle and Lower departments of the Northern portion of the Tibetan dependency had rebelled and we accordingly commanded the said Wên Hai to proceed at once with the necessary troops to the scene of disturbances and restore order. We have now received the report of the said Imperial Resident in which he states that, after several months of hard work, he and his Chinese and Tibetan subordinate officers have succeeded in restoring order and preserving the peace of the whole dependency, including the frontier tribes, and now asks that rewards and promotions be granted to his officers in recognition of their energy and bravery and diligence and tact in performing their difficult duties. [Here follow the names of a number of civil and military officials, Chinese and Tibetan, on whose behalf the rewards are asked.—Translator.] As a reward to the memorialist himself we hereby bestow upon him the premier civil button and command the Boards of Civil Appointment and of War to report on the list of officers attached to said memorial.

25th March.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

Wên Hai is appointed Chief Director of the Supervisorate of Instruction of the Heir-Apparent.

26th March.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) Fêng Yi-ho is appointed Brigadier-General of the Nan-Shao-Lien military circuit of Kuangtung province.

(2) We have received a memorial from Liu K'un-yi, Viceroy of the Liangkiang provinces, eulogising the official record of the late deceased Baron Li Kuang-chiu, late Provincial Judge and Generalissimo of Chêkiang, who died while engaged in reorganising the maritime defences and forces of the said province, and praying that some mark of the Imperial commendation be given to the name of the said deceased Baron, etc. We hereby command that extraordinary honours be granted to the deceased officer, that his official records be entered into the Dynastic History, and that his image be also placed in the memorial temples already erected in honour of the late Viceroy Li Shu-pin, first hereditary Baron, etc., father of the said deceased Baron Li Kuang-chiu, as a mark of Imperial recognition of the loyalty and patriotism of both father and son.

27th March.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

Lu Pao-chung is appointed a Sub-Chancellor of the Grand Secretariat with the brevet rank of a Vice-President of the Board of Rites.

28th and 29th March.

No papers of interest.

30th March.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

The other day we received memorials from both the Imperial Resident of Kobdo, Pao-ch'ang, and from Lu Hsiang, the Assistant Resident, accusing one another of receiving bribes and other misdemeanours. We therefore deputed Lien Shun to go at once to Kobdo and investigate on the spot. The report of the said Lien Shun is now before us in which he states that the Chief Resident although not proved to have received bribes had still been guilty of inability to restrain and preserve discipline amongst his subordinates as well as being too much under the influence of his favourites. We hereby command the said Pao Ch'ang to be cashiered and dismissed from his post of Imperial Resident of Kobdo, and his favourites, P'ei Kuo, an expectant Secretary of the Mongolian Superintendency, and Sha Yu-fu, a Manchu scribe, to be forthwith cashiered and dismissed for ever from the public service. With regard to the Assistant Resident, Lu Hsiang, whose only fault was to use the courier post service without permission of his superior officer, his act was excusable in that unless he did so he would have been wrongly accused to the Throne by his superior officer. The said Lu Hsiang is therefore absolved from blame.

31st March.

No papers of interest.

NEWS BY THE TAPE has often been utilised by a bold speculator for the speedy accumulation of a vast fortune. Knowledge is power in every avenue of life when properly wielded. The proprietor of Holloway's Pills and Ointment is fully alive to this fact, and knowing their value as a cure for all diseases, he has made their merits known in all parts of the world. Commercial men who, to keep pace with the times, have always to work at high pressure should never be without a supply of these valuable medicines. They purify the blood, strengthen the stomach, quicken the circulation and invigorate the system. For nervous or neuralgic headache, no remedy has been found to match them in excellence.

Meetings.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Council held in the Board Room on Thursday the 31st of May, 1900, there were present: Messrs. E. A. Hewett (Chairman), C. M. Ede, S. A. Hardoon, D. Landale, J. Prentice, M. Rohde, E. B. Skottowe, the Secretary, and the Assistant Secretary.

The usual formal business is transacted.

Dogs.—From reports by District Police Inspectors, the Council learns that the native dog-owners in outlying villages are not taking out licenses to any considerable extent, and it is therefore decided to issue a further proclamation to the effect that from and after the 15th proximo all unlicensed or unmuzzled dogs, found within Settlement limits, will be either seized or shot.

From the following correspondence it will be learnt that the licenses of the French Municipality are now equally valid with those of the Council, in both Settlements.

Shanghai, le 25 Mai 1900.

MONSIEUR,—Je suis chargé de vous informer que le Conseil, dans sa séance du 23 de ce mois, a décidé l'établissement d'une licence pour les chiens, ce concert avec le "Municipal Council," ainsi que celui-ci l'avait proposé par votre entremise.

Ci-joint, j'ai l'honneur de vous remettre une copie du règlement qui est en tous points pareil au votre. L'article 9, seul, a été ajouté; il est rédigé dans le même ordre d'idées que celui qui a présidé à l'établissement, par les deux Conseils, des licences de véhicules particuliers. Je vous serai reconnaissant de bien vouloir me faire connaître, aussitôt que cela vous sera possible, la décision de votre Administration sur cette question.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

Conseil d'Ad. Mun. française
de Shanghai, Le Secrétaire :
A. M. BOTTU.

Monsieur J. O. P. BLAND,
Secrétaire du Municipal Council
for the Foreign Settlement,
Shanghai.

LICENCES DE CHIENS.

"Règlement."

1° Les droits de licence sont de \$1.00 pour une année ou parties d'une année. Ces droits devront être payés le 31 Avril de chaque année, au plus tard.

2° A partir du 1er Mai de chaque année, toute personne possédant un chien et n'étant pas munie d'une licence, sera poursuivie.

3° Une plaque numérotée sera délivrée avec la licence; cette plaque devra être fixée au collier du chien.

4° Si cette plaque était perdue, un duplicata en serait délivré contre paiement de la somme de \$1.00. Ce montant serait remboursé si la plaque originale était retrouvée et rendue à l'Administration.

5° Des droits de licence ne seront pas réclamés pour des chiens âgés de moins de six mois.

6° Il en sera de même pour les chiens appartenant à des aveugles; dans ce dernier cas, un certificat d'exemption devra être obtenu de la Police.

7° Pour tout chien changeant de maître et pour lesquelles droits auront déjà été acquittés, la licence sera transférée au nom du nouveau propriétaire.

8° Les licences devront être produites sur toute réquisition de la Police, sous peines de poursuites légales. Sera de même poursuivie toute personne produisant une licence dont le numéro ne serait pas d'accord avec celui de la plaque au collier du chien.

9° Cette licence est valable pour la Concession Française et le "Foreign Settlement North of the Yangkingpang."

Council Room.

Shanghai, 28th May, 1900.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th instant from which the Council learns that regulations similar to those in force in this Settlement for licensing of dogs have been adopted by the French Municipality.

An addition to the Council's Dog license regulations will accordingly be made, stating that licenses issued to persons resident in either Settlement will be recognised as available in the other.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

J. O. P. BLAND,
Secretary.

The SECRETARY,
French Municipal Council,
Shanghai.

Pok Chuen Hong Pang.—The request of the Lund Investment Co. to reopen this question (vide Annual Report pp. 246,8), in view of the probable consent of the neighbouring Chinese owners to contribute their share of the making up of the proposed road, is again submitted and, with it, reports by the Engineer and Health Officer in *re*. The Council endorses the recommendation of the Works Committee that no work should be done in any case until the autumn when the improvement will be carried out, provided that the cost to the public charge be not greater than was estimated originally.

Road Extension Plan.—In reply to a request from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., the Secretary is directed to say that the Council is unable to extend the time limit fixed by Lund Regulation VI a in the matter of protest against road lines scheduled.

Outside Roads.—Letter from the Shanghai and Hongkong Building Loan and Investment Co. Ltd. is read, re-stating their request for the Council's assistance in the matter of the development of an estate north of the Rifle Range Road. The principle is again affirmed that until the payments of taxes by residents or prospective residents is assured, the Council cannot take joint action in the matter.

The Meeting then adjourns.

The following are forwarded for publication with the foregoing minutes:—

SUMMARY OF GENERAL MUNICIPAL RATE, FOREIGN.—MARCH QUARTER.

	1900.	1899.	1900.
	No. of Hou- ses.	Rental Assess- ment 11s.	No. of Hou- ses.
Central District	531	719,984	496
Western District	253	209,072	..
Northern District	613	202,215	679
Eastern District	177	215,285	118
Total	1,574	1,509,556	1,293
Occupied by Eggers	1,239	1,326,546	1,076
Occupied by Natives	46	57,493	..
Occupied by Natives	114	127	119
Unocc'd	778	56,512	20
Total	1,574	1,509,556	1,293
Tax collected @10%			
Central District	17,045	..	16,039
Western District	5,633	..	..
Northern District	7,130	..	5,236
Eastern District	5,152	..	4,130
Total	94,563	..	26,105

A. JOHNSFORD,
Overseer of Taxes.

WEEKLY POLICE REPORT.

Return of apprehensions, etc., made by the Police during the week ending 26th May, 1900.

Offences.

No. of
Apprehensions.

Breach of Municipal Regulations	81
Burglary	2
Cruelty to Animals	2
Cutting and Wounding	5
Fraud	1
Furious Riding and/or Driving	3
Sambling	4
Kidnapping	1
Larceny from Persons	2
Larceny from Dwellings, etc.	47
Miscellaneous cases	192
Ricsha Licenses suspended	467
" " confiscated	6
Wheelbarrow Licenses suspended	38
Beggars, Hawkers, and Ragpickers	391

Total number of persons coming under the notice of Police 1,242
Chinese dead bodies found in streets 5
Stray dogs captured 18

PIERRE B. PATTISSON,
Captain-Superintendent of Police.

THE
SHERIDAN CONSOLIDATED
MINING AND MILLING CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Co., Ltd., was held at the office of the General Chamber of Commerce, Peking Road, on Friday afternoon. There were present Messrs. G. J. Morrison (Chairman), A. McLeod, H. J. Such, Directors; R. S. Harvey, and J. D. Thorburn, Secretary.

The Chairman said the regular annual meeting had been called for last week, but a sufficient number of people not being present, it was adjourned. Now, such shareholders as were present formed a quorum. He did not think it was necessary to do more than pass the formal business. He proposed that the report and accounts as presented be passed.

Mr. A. McLeod seconded, and it was carried.

No proposal as to the election of Directors was brought forward and those of last year thus continue in office.

The Chairman proposed, Mr. R. S. Harvey seconded, and it was carried, that Mr. G. W. Noel be elected auditor for the ensuing year.

This ended the meeting.

THE AMERICAN LADIES'
LITERARY SOCIETY.

On Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock, the ladies of the American Ladies' Literary Society held their last meeting of the year of 1899-1900. This thriving ladies' society, which has just completed its second year of good work, has established the pleasing precedent of admitting the husbands, brothers, fathers, or men friends of the members to the last meeting of each year. It is safe to say that the aforesaid husbands, brothers, etc., who are favoured with an invitation never decline to attend. They were all present on Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Nance, 20, Quinsan Road, who entertained the Society and its friends. A short but interesting programme was given in the parlours of the hostess. After an artistically performed piano duet by the Misses Quackenbush, Mrs. Rich, the Society's president, in a few well-chosen words, welcomed the friends to this second anniversary of the Society's inception, and gave a short account of the past year's successful work. The membership has increased from the original twenty-three charter members to the present membership of thirty-eight. That the interest of the members has not flagged is attested by the fact that almost the only losses from that roll of members are those of

Mrs. G. R. Loehr, and Mrs. and Miss Bash, who have returned to America.

The following outline of the work of the Society for the year 1900-1901, will show that the members are really working :

1900.	
Oct. 15.	"With the Brownings"...Mrs. Rich.
N.v. 5.	The Statesmen of the Century.....Miss Posey.
Nov. 19.	Bird-songs and their Writers.....Mrs. Tatum.
Dec. 3.	Social Problems and Modern Philanthropy.....Miss Silver.
Dec. 17.	Robert Louis Stevenson.....Mrs. Nance.
1901.	
Jan. 7.	The Century's Progress in Psychology—Especially as this has affected the science of Medicine.....Dr. Kerr.
Jan. 24.	Woman's Developed Sphere.....Miss Melvin.
Feb. 4.	An Afternoon with Ruth McEnery Stuart.....Mrs. Lyman.
Feb. 18.	A Comparative Study of the World's Progress in Educational Advantages for Women.....Mrs. Lewis.
Mar. 4.	Kindergarten and Crèche.....Miss Bonneil.
Mar. 18.	Paris Exposition.....Mrs. Haskell.
Apr. 8.	Good and Evil Results of the Wars of the Present Century.....Mrs. Ferguson.
Apr. 22.	Discoveries, Inventions and Explorations of the Century.....Mrs. Williams.
May 6.	John Ruskin.....Mrs. Quackenbush.
May 20.	Tour by Stereopticon.....Miss Melvin.

We, who are in the Far East, are sometimes inclined to feel that we are out of touch with "the best that is being done and thought in the world." But when we see the vigorous efforts being made by many of the members of Shanghai Society to keep intellectually alive, in spite of difficulties, as evidenced by such programmes as this, we feel that Shanghai is not so far from the Occident after all.

After a rollicking "rag time" song by Mr. Fobes, who knows so well how to sing these songs, Mr. Stratton gave an informal and most interesting account of his recent visit among the Lolos, one of the aboriginal tribes in southern Szechuan.

An excellently rendered recitation by Mrs. Dunn and another piano duet by the Misses Quackenbush closed the programme and everybody adjourned to the lawn for tea. The success of this second closing meeting of this energetic society has convinced some of its friends that the usefulness of the Society would be much increased by having two sessions per year. We trust the Society will consider this suggestion.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."—If the blood is laden with impurities it spreads disease as it circulates through the organs of the human body—Lungs, Heart, Stomach, Kidneys, Brain. Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds its effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes. 4 alt

Report.

THE SHANGHAI MEAT SUPPLY ASSOCIATION, LD.

Report of the Directors for presentation to shareholders at the first annual general meeting, to be held at the Company's Offices No. 115A, Broadway, on Friday, 8th June 1900, at 6 p.m.

The Directors beg to submit to the shareholders the Statement of Accounts for the half year ended 31st March, 1900.

They regret the loss which has been caused by the great amount of bad and doubtful debts incurred, amounting to \$1,200. They however do not anticipate in the future any such loss, as the matter is receiving their careful personal attention. The business has shown a gradual increase and if it had not been for the above mentioned loss the Directors would have been justified in declaring a dividend.

The Directors regret they have had to part with the services of Mr. G. Cameron, their late Manager.

Messrs. L. Moore and J. W. Gande retire. Mr. A. R. Leake retires, but offers himself for re-election.

By order of the Directors,

W. H. JACKSON,
Secretary.

BALANCE SHEET.

Dr.

Liabilities.

March 31st, 1900—	\$
To Capital Account 1,617	
shares @ \$10=.....	\$16,170
Less unpaid Calls on	
39 @ \$5.....	195
	15,975.07
Sundry Creditors	4,839.75
	\$20,814.75

Assets.

Cr.

	\$
By Stock in hand	994.96
" Sundry Debtors	8,649.06
" Furniture and Implements.....	386.61
" Horse and Cart.....	250.00
" Cash in Chartered Bank on	
Current Account	9,548.26
" Preliminary Expenses.....	639.57
" Cash in hand Hongkew Estab-	
lishment	45.78
" Profit and Loss Account.....	309.51
	\$20,814.75

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.

	\$
To Preliminary Expenses	300.00
" Bad and Doubtful Debts.....	1,200.00
" Exchange.....	6.10
" Auditor's Fee.....	75.00
	\$1,581.10

Cr.

	\$
By Balance of Working Account ...	1,217.53
" Interest Account	51.06
" Transfer Fee Account	3.00
" Loss for Half year ended	
March 31st	309.51
	\$1,581.10

L. MOORE,

J. W. GANDE,

J. D. C. ARTHUR,

} Directors.

W. H. JACKSON,
Secretary.

I have examined the Books and Accounts of the Company with the above Statement and find same to be in conformity therewith.

ARTHUR R. LEAKE,
Auditor.

Amusements.

MR. CROMPTON'S CONCERT.

Mr. Crompton's annual concert took place on Thursday evening at the Lyceum Theatre. It is a pity that the concert was not fixed for an earlier date in the season, in which case no doubt Mr. Crompton would have secured a much larger audience. The Theatre was only fairly filled. A long and interesting programme was provided, but thanks to the brisk way in which item followed item and to the fact of there being no interval, it did not appear too lengthy.

The chorus comprised members of the Cathedral and Union Church Choirs and Choral Society and were most successful both in Sullivan's "O Gladsome Light," a lovely hymn from "The Golden Legend," and in the short work of "Gallia" (Gounod). This latter work is not new to a Shanghai audience, and with Mrs. Lamphier as soloist an excellent rendering was given.

The vocalists were Miss Finch, Mrs. Timm and Mrs. Shorrock, and Messrs. Harberg, Kelly and Clapp. Mr. Kelly was heard to advantage in the old Irish air of "Father O'Flynn," the last verse of which he repeated on being recalled. Mr. Hagberg was in magnificent voice in "The Deathless Army" but on account of the lateness of the hour would not respond to the encore. Miss Finch sang (a) "Winds in the Trees" and (b) "I would believe" (Chaminade). Mr. Timm was responsible for "Du hyde Blomst" and "I Skoven," and joined Mrs. Shorrock in Goring Thomas' Duet "Sunset."

The orchestra was composed of the Town Band, assisted by several amateurs, including Mr. F. P. Pratt (leader), Mrs. Mordhorst, Miss E. Jansen, and Messrs. Löhlein, Mansfield, Bernard, and others. The orchestra opened the concert with Mendelssohn's stirring overture to "Ruy Blas;" this was well given; they were however less successful in Bizet's "Petite Suite" in the 2nd movement of which a third start had to be made, the flautist not taking up his lead. The orchestra also rendered effective aid in "Gallia." A pianoforte solo, sonata in A flat (Beethoven), by Signor Melocchi, was included in the programme. This gentleman, a newcomer, has a good technique but his style is cold and expressionless, and he lacks force. Altho' the sonata was lengthy, Signor Melocchi gave a showy encore piece which it would have been better taste to have considerably curtailed. The other instrumental item was a Trio for violin, piano, and organ, Prélude du Déluge (Saint-Saens), which was, as it deserved, very well received. Mr. Crompton may well be congratulated on the generally successful rendering of his long and varied programme.

"WOT CHER, MATE?" may be a rough form of salutation, but the kindness of its intention cannot be questioned; therefore it may not be out of place to adopt it here. Those who may be suffering from bad health can be speedily relieved from their misery by the aid of Holloway's Pills and Ointment. They are equally good for the old, young, or middle-aged. For weakness, lassitude, fever, diarrhoea, dysentery, measles, croup and similar complaints, these medicines cannot be equalled; whilst for skin diseases, sores, ulcers, scrofula and old wounds, they have effected cures in cases declared hopeless, by eminent medical men. Full directions as to the use of these remarkable remedies are given to purchasers.

CRICKET.

SHANGHAI RACE CLUB V. S.R.C.

This match was played on the ground of the Recreation Club, and attracted a certain amount of interest. It promised an exciting finish, but the rain stopped the game twice, with the result that there was not time to play it out.

When the game started, and the Race Club sent Sheldon and Keylock in the day was extremely hot. Cool leaves were in request, and it was not long before general lassitude set in. Sheldon was soon out, and Tyack joined Keylock. The latter did not remain very long, however, and retired for 5. Pratt was the next man in, and he signalled his arrival by two big hits for 4. He made altogether 14 before Wallace caught him. Tyack was meanwhile scoring merrily. Ross, Stewart, and Dyer joined him, but were quickly sent back, and it was not until Farbridge went in that anything like a stand was made. He and Tyack for a time punished the bowling pretty badly, but at 21 he was clean bowled by Wallace. Cheetham and King had short lives, and shortly after the last man, Wright, came out, Tyack was caught by Wilson. He had made 75, though had not the sun been so strong, and had the running been better, this score would undoubtedly have been much larger.

The interval saw stormclouds looming up, and the weather-cunning prophesied that there would be rain before the S.R.C. went in. This proved correct, for just as the Race Club were going into the field the rain started and play was delayed for some time. When at last their innings was opened T. Veitch and Cook went to the wickets and began to knock about the bowling of Wright and Farbridge. Veitch was the first to go, by a splendid catch by Keylock at point. Wallace joined Cook, but did not stay long, and then H. Veitch came out. He played freely and well, and runs came fairly quickly. Cook went out for a well-played 29, and Turnbull came in to keep H. Veitch company for a while. He only made 7, but was better than any of his successors did. It was about this time that play had to be stopped again by reason of the rain, and when this stopped the dark clouds had made the light very bad. Under these circumstances play was soon stopped, the S.R.C. being at that time 112 for seven wickets. The Race Club had been 127 at the same period, but had made very few more: so that the finish might have been a good one, instead of a draw. Score and analysis:—

SHANGHAI RACE CLUB.

B. P. Sheldon, c. Wilson b. Jackson	1
H. E. Keylock, c. Wallace b. Jackson ...	5
W. J. Tyack, c. Wilson b. Jackson	75
S. W. Pratt, c. Wallace b. Jackson	14
W. W. G. Ross, b. Jackson	0
C. Stewart, b. Wallace	2
J. C. Dyer, b. Jackson	2
R. C. Farbridge, b. Wallace	21
W. B. Cheetham c. Wallace b. Jackson ...	0
H. S. King, b. Jackson	2
R. J. L. Wright, not-out	0
Byes 10	10

S.R.C.

T. Veitch, c. Keylock, b. Farbridge	18
T. Cook, c. and b. Wright	29
S. Wallace, c. Stewart, b. Tyack	7
H. Veitch, b. Wright	26
W. J. Turnbull, c. Tyack, b. Wright	7
W. H. Jackson, b. Pratt	0
W. E. Wilson, c. Cheetham, b. Wright ...	3
F. Johnson, not out	6
T. Huggall, not out	3
Byes, 10; l.b., 3	13

For 7 wks...112

J. Naylor and A. Young did not bat.

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

SHANGHAI RACE CLUB.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Johnson	9	1	30	0
Jackson	15.4	2	42	8
Wilson	2	0	10	0
Naylor	2	0	22	0
Wallace	4	0	18	2

S. R. C.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Wright	12	3	27	4
Farbridge	6	1	24	1
Ross	5	0	11	0
Tyack	5	0	22	1
Pratt	5	1	15	1

SHANGHAI CRICKET CLUB V. POLICE C.C.

An eleven representing the S.C.C. met fifteen of the Police C.C. on Saturday on the former's ground, the match having to be left drawn, considerably in favour of the S.C.C. The full score is appended:—

S. C. C. XI.

J. U. Buchanan, c. Lynch, b. Head	1
A. G. Harrison, b. Head	19
F. W. Potter, b. Lynch	3
A. J. H. Moule, b. Champion	32
A. D. S. Powell, c. Chilver, b. Champion ..	9
S. E. Smalley, c. Head b. Lynch	4
W. H. Moule, not-out	57
W. A. C. Platt, not-out	34
Byes, 1; l.b. 1	2

For 6 wks...161

H. D. Sharpin, J. P. D. Griffin, and A. Bovet, did not bat.

POLICE C.C. XV.

C. W. Spottiswoode, run out	0
M. Champion, c. and b. Potter	2
I. Aiers, b. Potter	4
C. Champion, b. Potter	0
Mr. McEuen, not out	31
S. Robinson, c. W. H. Moule, b. Harrison ..	3
J. Lynch, b. Harrison	1
A. Lawrence, b. Harrison	13
P. Mackintosh, b. Potter	3
A. Brown, not out	2
I. Fek, c. W. H. Moule, b. Potter	2

For 9 wks...61

S. Chilver, C. Head, G. Johnston, and J. Powles, did not bat.

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

S.C.C.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
J. Lynch	23	5	72	2
Head	18	3	53	2
C. Champion	15	4	28	2
McEuen	2	0	6	0

POLICE C. C.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Harrison	9	1	26	3
Potter	11	0	30	5
Sharpin	2	0	5	0

SHANGHAI PUBLIC SCHOOL ATHLETIC CLUB

V. H. M. S. HERMIONE.

The School met defeat in their match on Saturday against the Hermione by 40 runs, the full score reading:—

H. M. S. HERMIONE.

Lieut. Ballard, b. G. F. Lanning	5
Mid. de Thoren, b. J. W. Cameron	0
" Le Mottie, b. J. W. Cameron	12
" Neild, b. J. W. Cameron	0
Lieut. Davidson, b. J. W. Cameron	3
" Chetwode, c. A. E. Lanning, b. G. F. Lanning	8
" Goodenough, b. G. F. Lanning	50
Mid. Henderson, b. O. H. Andersen	10
" Pope, b. J. W. Cameron	0
" Gordon, b. J. W. Cameron	6
" Cooke, not-out	3
Byes 16, l.b. 1	17

114

S.P.S.A.C.

G. F. Lanning, b. Ballard	17
H. C. J. Wilson, b. de Thoren	17
A. H. White, c. de Thoren, b. Ballard ...	2
A. E. Lanning, b. de Thoren	3
R. H. Moorehead, l-b-w., b. Ballard	4
O. H. Andersen, b. Ballard	10
J. W. Cameron, c. Henderson, b. Le Mottie	2
T. P. Moorehead, b. Le Mottie	0
S. O. Limby, c. and b. Ballard	1
H. Ollerdesen, c. Chetwode, b. Ballard ...	6
T. Staley, not-out	0
Byes 11, l.b. 1	12

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

H.M.S. HERMIONE.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
G. F. Lanning	10.2	1	32	3
J. W. Cameron	10	2	28	6
O. H. Andersen ...	4	0	25	1
A. E. Lanning ...	1	0	12	0

S. P. S. A. C.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Le Mottie	8	1	18	2
de Thoren	10	1	33	2
Ballard	7	2	11	6

Correspondence.

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Your issue of the 30th ult. contains a letter by "J. A.," Hankow, on "Missionary Status," in which he calls attention to a letter from your Kingmenchou correspondent, animadverting somewhat severely on two missions working in that district. Speaking of these two missions, "J. A." states: "Of the missions indicated above by —, one of them is Mr. Foster's. It is certainly curious to note that the same things which Mr. Foster charges against the R. C. Missions, other missions charge against his own."

My object in writing now is simply to point out a mistake into which "J. A." has fallen, in his efforts to identify the two missions in question. Mr. Foster, like myself, is a member of the London Missionary Society in Central China. Now, with regard to the two missions referred to by your Kingmenchou correspondent, nothing can be more certain than that the London Mission is not one of them: (1) The London Mission has no work in Kingmenchou, and has never had any dealings of any kind with the Kingmenchou magistrate or yamen. (2) I have it on the best authority that your Kingmenchou correspondent had not the London Mission in his mind at all when writing the letter quoted by "J. A."

Thus the remarks of the Kingmenchou magistrate, whatever truth or falsehood there may be in them, have no reference whatever to the London Mission.

I am, etc.,

GRIFFITH JOHN.

Hankow, 3rd June.

CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE.

— "The most searching Blood Cleanser that science and medical skill have brought to light." Sufferers from Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of any kind are solicited to give it a trial to test its value. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.

A COWARDLY ASSAULT.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—This evening at seven o'clock two young Chinese were standing on the Szechuen Road bridge, when a foreigner rode past on a bicycle, and as he was passing struck one of the Chinese a severe blow on the neck with a whip causing blood to flow from the wound. A Chinese policeman saw the assault but seemed afraid to arrest the fellow. The two Chinese were standing on the east side of the bridge, so the foreigner not only committed a cowardly act, but, as he was going in the direction of Hongkew, he was riding on the wrong side of the road at the time. The Chinese he struck is a respectable young man, with wife and children. He studied English for seven or eight years, and has been employed for three or four years in a Consulate in this port. He is also an accomplished bicyclist and knows the rules of the road. The foreigner rode away rapidly, and the Chinese whom he struck does not know his name, so it is impossible to prosecute him; but I hope you will give publicity to his dastardly act and perhaps the publicity will make him ashamed to repeat it. It is not far-fetched to suppose that the victim of such an insult might come from some inland town or village, and, feeling embittered against foreigners, would return and become the ringleader in an attack upon some isolated group of foreigners, when the consequence of a brutal and cowardly act committed by a foreigner in perfect safety in Shanghai would fall upon helpless women and children in the interior. A foreigner who can do what the fellow on the bicycle did this evening and not feel ashamed would feel at home among the "Boxers" in North China, who are brave enough when two or three thousand of them are mutilating a few unarmed foreigners. I hope the fellow is not an Englishman.

I am, etc.,

C. B.

8th June.

BRITISH NEGLECT OF THE YANGTZE VALLEY.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Although official statements have been frequently made in Parliament quite recently on behalf of the Government that ample measures were being taken for the protection of British interests in China, the utterly unprotected state of the enormous British interests, both at Shanghai and on the Yangtze river, is a very grave national scandal, and is likely to lead to most serious emergencies that might have been prevented by proper precaution. There ought to be at all times of the year at least one cruiser of the Bonaventure class cruising between Chinkiang and Hankow, and the presence of such a ship would be a strong deterrent of riotous outbreaks, and a very moderate premium to pay for the security of British lives and interests at the river ports. Notwithstanding the plain warnings that have been given since the beginning of this year as to the approaching crisis in China, there is at the present moment when the crisis has begun, not one British ship of any size or strength on the Yangtze. The only British ships now on the river are the Woodcock, Woodlark, Snipe, and Esk, all of these being diminutive gunboats, and far too small to have any deterrent effect. Here at Shanghai, where there ought always to be a vessel of the Bonaventure or Hermione class, there will probably be for some days no vessel at all, when the Hermione leaves for Weihaiwei on Tuesday next, and then her place will

be taken by the Linnet, a small and ancient gun-vessel, with a speed of about 7 knots only. The Esk may also be here, as she is on her way down from Hankow, but as she is only a very small gunboat, and requires about eight days to make the voyage from Hankow to Shanghai, her power, as a protector of British interests, is extremely small.

The outbreak in the north of China will of course be followed by similar events in the South, and the Yangtze provinces have been ripe for revolt for a long time past. As British interests so greatly predominate in the Yangtze provinces, and as they are supposed to be politically earmarked as within the British sphere of influence, and as such plain warnings have been given as to their dangerous condition, it might have been expected that reasonable precautions would have been taken to be prepared for emergencies, yet, as a fact, it is hardly possible for such vast interests to be more utterly unprotected than they now are. Russian men-of-war have recently arrived here from Port Arthur. There are Russian interests of some importance at Hankow, and in the event of any disturbance at that port they will probably proceed there, and it is quite possible that they may not wait for disturbances to begin, but may go as a precautionary measure, and as we have no ships sufficient to protect foreign interests, it would be a perfectly reasonable course to adopt. But what a frightful humiliation it will be if British interests on the Yangtze have to look to Russian ships for protection.

The Viceroy on the Yangtze, who ought to have had the strongest moral support from the British Government for years past, as well as the certainty of material support from a very powerful ship always close at hand, have been utterly neglected, and the crisis which has been so plainly and rapidly approaching finds the British Government just as completely unprepared for protecting British interests in China as it was last October in regard to British interests in South Africa; and just as ignorant of the real political position of affairs in this country as it was in regard to those in South Africa.

The absence of reasonable and due precaution is morally certain to lead to the occurrence of immensely difficult and dangerous emergencies, which might have been entirely prevented, and which will give rise to another tremendous strain upon the resources of the Empire.

I am, etc.,

W. V. DRUMMOND.

10th June.

THE PIRACY ON THE KUTWO.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In your paper of the 6th instant your subscribers learned that at least one Englishman is disgusted over the Kutwo affair, and though not an Englishman I have also read with disgust the reports of the affair.

The writer remembers when he was an officer on a C. M. vessel in 1886 an instance of pirates being put in a warm corner, with the result that some lost their heads and some jumped overboard, with the ship going at full speed. It is very difficult to say what should be done on such an occasion, but it is a wonder to a passenger who knows something of China and its people when he sees on board a great Yangtze river boat a few old rifles standing in the saloon.

Why not have telephones from the commodore's and engine rooms to the wheelhouse? Why not provide the officers with modern weapons? Besides, it should be known that on board a passenger steamer when pirates appear a 12-bore sporting gun

with AA or BB shot is a very formidable weapon, and can be recommended as most effective up to thirty yards.

The sooner the river boat companies take precautions the sooner will passengers be able to travel with safety and comfort.

I am, etc.,

PRECAUTION.

9th June.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—The letter which appeared in your paper some days since, which I have just perused, by "Disgusted Englishman," touches on a sentiment which appeals to most of us.

Without commenting on the particular case which evoked his disgust, I should like to draw attention to the extreme difficulty, on an occasion of émeute among the passengers of a river steamer, in discriminating between the robbers and the passengers. The advent of armed Europeans is a signal for a cessation of the trouble, and the Chinese staff and watchmen dare not point out the offenders.

Regarding the use of firearms, there is a great danger of shooting the wrong man, and the case of the chief officer of the Lanarkshire, who is now undergoing eighteen months' imprisonment for shooting a gigantic negro, who attacked and seriously stabbed him three times with a long knife, is still fresh in our memories.

I am, etc.,

MASTER MARINER.

11th June.

(Enclosure.)

As an example of what may be expected when, as a last resource and for the protection of lives and property, extreme measures are taken in suppressing insubordination, we have only to mention that of the Chief Officer of the Lanarkshire, now undergoing a sentence of eighteen months' imprisonment for shooting an insubordinate seaman. This seaman, a powerful negro, six feet two inches in height, previously refractory and difficult to deal with, used insulting language to the Chief Officer in the hearing of other members of the crew, and, upon being remonstrated with, drew his sheath knife. For self-protection the officer obtained his revolver, and, on again appearing on deck, the officer, after some angry words had passed, was attacked and seriously stabbed three times, his life being despaired of. In defending himself he used his revolver and after four shots the seaman was mortally wounded. The sentence was passed upon Mr. Black, the gentleman referred to, upon his arrival home at Glasgow, blame being laid upon him for not endeavouring to disarm the seaman, a task which in theory may be suggested, but in practice is somewhat difficult to carry out when dealing with a desperate ruffian such as this, especially when he has the moral support of the rest of the crew.

LIKIN.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—The Empress Dowager has sown the wind and must reap the whirlwind.

Some three or four years ago the Chinese Government alienated the likin for the purpose of guaranteeing the principal and interest on the loan obtained from the German and Hongkong and Shanghai Banks. Commissioners and deputies were appointed to organise the service in conjunction with, and as part of, the Imperial Maritime Customs Service. It is worth while at this cataclysmic juncture to ask (1st) What is the result? (2nd) What the result will be? As to the first, we can safely say it is merely represented by a mass of unsatisfactory and totally unreliable figures. The Com-

missioners and deputies have reached no definite result, dust having been thrown in their eyes wheresoever they have wended their way or bent their steps; (2nd) Directly the Imperial Edict was issued concerning the likin, the various Viceroy and Governors of provinces sold the likin to "farmers," in some cases for one year, in others for a term of years—even the Salt Gabelle was sold to a company which it is usual to call "farmers." These farmers are what in old days would have been called pirates—they simply steal (politely called squeeze) every cash they can from any man who carries anything, by boat or otherwise, whether goods for selling or goods bought. Under the name of likin, all sorts of extortion are practised. The particular point I wish to emphasise is that the Government and the people of China do not benefit one iota; the money finds its way only into the pockets of the "farmers" and the provincial officials; the funds are not applied to any of the ordinary functions of government, such as improving communication, repairing bridges, or, in fact, anything for the actual good of the country, merely for the personal aggrandisement and enrichment of the provincial officials and the "farmers."

The present imbroglio surely gives an opportunity for foreign governments to step in, "call a halt," and demand the abolition of this most iniquitous system of taxation. Why should I attempt to legalise it by such a word? The correct English of the word is not taxation, but deliberate piracy.

I will illustrate the foregoing by a short story, for the truth of which I will vouch. The likin office, in their anxiety to square all the big firms (Chinese) who have, by virtue of their business, to pay heavy likin charges, and to prevent the likin falling into the Customs' hands, did in the particular case I refer to accept for the year 1899 3,000 strings of cash, issuing in exchange blank pass-books signed. In this special instance nine only out of twelve were used and the shroff who held the three unused passes was asked to sell them by an employee of the likin "farmer." Presumably the "farmer" had not had a very profitable year, but anyway he immediately took action against the firm, which laid the blame for carelessness on their responsible buyer; this man was taken to Soochow and there examined, the intention being to make him implicate his firm in the shroff's carelessness. This they failed to do as he was man enough to say he gave the passes to the shroff, and the youngster got back to Shanghai within the precincts of the foreign Settlements. Now the officials are trying to get hold of his father and hope to make Tls. 50,000 out of the business. Fortunately, he also is safe in the foreign Settlements. The point of the foregoing story is that the likin office was squared for the year for 3,000 strings of cash, say roughly \$3,000, but, to use a vulgar phrase, "there is a chance of a put-up job," and these pirates want to squeeze or steal Tls. 50,000, and every artifice known to them is being employed to succeed, and actually the only tangible excuse is the cupidity of a shroff who sold two of the passes for eight dollars.

I believe the solution of the likin question to be increased duties and total abolition of likin. Every article of food that passes a barrier into Shanghai is taxed by these pirates; treaties and agreements are absolutely ignored; all industries and trade generally are being strangled by this likin, or rather piracy, which is semi-legal at present. What more need be written? Is it not time for action?

I am, etc.,

11th June.

NEMESIS.

THE NEGLECT OF THE YANGTZE VALLEY.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In your issue of this morning you publish a letter from Mr. Drummond in which he shows that the force of British ships in the Yangtze is insufficient for the defence of British interests and of the lives and property of British subjects.

Since 1891 we have rarely been left so poorly protected. There was, apparently, for some years an understanding between the navies by which the vessels of different countries relieved each other in this duty of safeguarding foreigners in the Yangtze Valley. There was then generally a vessel of sufficient size at each of the ports, so that in case of trouble a force could be landed for defence or in the last resort the foreign residents taken away. And yet the situation at the present time is far more serious than it was in 1891 or has been at any time since. It is true that no outbreak has occurred, but no one can guarantee that one may not occur at any time. Even if we accept the assurance that the Viceroy at Wuchang and Nanking wish to prevent trouble, it is uncertain whether in the present state of the country we can count on them to do so. At present we are living in a country without a government. There is a government in name, but it exercises none of the functions of good government and cannot be relied on to do anything for the protection of foreigners. If the foreign residents in the Yangtze Valley are to be protected their governments must protect them.

As an American I would very gladly see this duty undertaken by my own country. The United States has vessels enough in these waters to spare several of them for this duty, and the mere presence of a few such ships in the river would go far to prevent any outbreak at the ports.

During the riots of 1891 the presence of the British gunboat Archer and the firmness of her commander, Captain Ferris, saved us from the entire destruction of all the Missions in Wuehang. It was fortunately not necessary to fire a shot, but the knowledge that the Captain was not to be trifled with was enough. I have a very lively recollection of what life had been made for us for days by the roughs of the city, previous to the visit of the English Captain to the Viceroy's yamen, and the contrast the next morning. Everything was then as peaceful as one could wish. It is with a great deal of gratitude that I acknowledge that this Mission owes the safety of its schools and hospital and church at Wuehang to the British navy, which, whether men realise it or not, has been the unseen power, very quiet but very determined, which has enabled us to do our work in peace in China.

Missionaries are sometimes accused of favoring a "gunboat policy." I am not one who would see missionary work dependent on an armed force, nor have I ever met a missionary who would, but there is a sense in which the missionary, like everyone else, must carry on his work under the sanction of right and justice. When he goes to a land where there is no government he naturally does not expect protection, but when he lives in a land which has a government and is treated with on equal terms by all civilised nations, he is right in claiming under law and treaty the same protection for his school or church which another can claim for his mill or godowns.

And there is another side to this question of foreign intervention which is too often left out of sight. The body of native Christians is a body the most law-abiding in the empire. The only sign of patriotism or love of country I ever see or hear of is amongst them. These people are also mentioned in the treaties and can claim

liberty of conscience. And yet they have been harried and spoiled and murdered with impunity by the worst class of the people, and the Chinese government has never done anything effective to help them but has instead protected and rewarded their oppressors. And outside the Christian body is the Chinese people. When we missionaries have trouble and riots it is not our neighbours, the law-abiding and hard-working people, who are to blame but the roughs and rowdies instigated by the yamen. We forget that the Chinese are not all Boxers and barbarians. What for foreigners need to realise is that there is a Chinese people which in time of peace has to suffer from the mandarins, and in time of disturbance has to suffer from the worst elements of the community which have gathered head under the misgovernment of the same mandarins. And any intervention by foreign nations, whether it leads to the dismemberment of China or not, is as much in the interest of these people as it is in the interests of foreigners. If trouble breaks out on the Yangtze the honest and good amongst the people will be the ones who have to suffer. Foreign intervention at this time is to help the Chinese who are worth anything against their oppressors, and tends to bring to an end the monstrous system of cruelty and injustice tempered by rebellion that has been the state of this country so long.

However matters in the North turn out, we who are safe in Shanghai ought to remember the people in the outposts and bring every influence to bear to give them sufficient protection.

I am, etc.,

F. R. GRAVES.

St. John's College,
12th June.

THE PAILO AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Referring to your Paris correspondent's letter, dated the 13th of April, published in your issue of the 2nd of May, we beg to inform you that we are the exhibitors of the Pailo in question. We sent some exhibits to Paris following a direct request through the Chamber of Commerce from the Customs, and as we paid for these things we naturally expected them to be used as advertisements and not merely to embellish the Chinese Section of Monsieur Vapereau.

After the goods had been shipped by the Customs we received to our great astonishment, on the 31st of March, 1900, a letter from the Customs dated 30th of March, 1900, enclosing extract of a letter from Mr. Vapereau in which this gentleman said that as far back as the 17th of January, 1899, the French Government had decided not to accept the exhibits of foreigners in China for the Paris Exhibition.

It was only due to the energy of our agent that the Pailo was erected, in spite of the obstruction placed in his way by Mr. Vapereau, of which we have written proof, and yet your correspondent (could it be Mr. Vapereau himself?) says that infinite credit is due to this gentleman for the Chinese section. If Mr. Vapereau had had his own way the articles in question would now be on their way back to China, we presume.

As there were not likely to be more than about a dozen people present amongst the visitors to the Exhibition who could read Chinese, we attached absolutely no importance to the Chinese inscriptions, which are nothing more than a pure and simple advertisement unintelligible to 99% of the visitors. But we certainly thought we should be allowed to advertise also in French, which, however, was refused, Monsieur Vapereau evidently thinking that the

exhibits were sent there to please him and to set off his own exhibits.

Enclosing a photograph of the Pailo with the full inscriptions on it, and thanking you in anticipation for publishing this letter,

We are, etc.

SIEMSEN AND KROHN.

Foochow, 5th June.

Poetry.

AN ICHANG EXILE'S PRAYER.

(After the Tragedy and Subsequent Force at Sungpu.)

Because, oh Lord, there is none other way

Whereby we may escape these evil days,
Because we are as jetsam on the strand,
Forgotten of our country and our kin,
We, who join East to West, the pioneers
Of many better days that are to be:—

Because we, ever toiling overseas,
We who have sold our heritage, our all,
Excepting certain ancient chartered rights

To breathe Thine air and tread the common earth;

Now see these rights invaded day by day
By the encroaching tide of pagan wiles,
Of native insolence and savagery:

Because the distant fate of Margary
Is coming ever nearer to our doors,
And deeds which once had set the world ablaze,

Ay, even to the starting of Crusades,
Are looked upon as commonplace and trite;

Because a murdered Christian does not bring,

As did with Rome's proud citizens of old,
Swift-footed vengeance on the slayers' track,

But is atoned for by official lies
And certain hideous payments of sycee,
Which, on a rapidly descending scale,
Will soon attain that meagre estimate
At which they quoted sparrows long ago:

Because we know not whose it next shall be

To guard his home against the howling mob,

To be the victim of their fierce attack,
And then of mild, politely-penned, despatch,

To leave his mangled carcase in the street,
With face uncovered, while the Consul sits

In some Viceregal Yamèn, over tea,
Assessing the small value of the dead:

And last, because the sacredness of life
Rests on nice points of quality and clothes:

Therefore it is, oh! Lord, that now we pray,

When next the rabble moves to deeds of blood,

Let not the pillage or the slaughter be
Of Customs hireling or merchant churl,
Or humble missionary, glad to gain
Exit from trouble to a martyr's crown,
But rather grant, when the incited mob,
Like unleashed bloodhound, seeks its nearest prey,

That it may find obtrusive on its path
Some personage important to the state,
Or high official representative,
Some travelling faddist, potent in the press,

Or information-gathering M.P.,
Some Anti-Opium League authority,
Aristocratic trotter of the Globe,
Or human atom authorised to wear
Gold lace upon the edges of his clothes,
Upon whose taking off there shall ensue
The steady tramp of solid infantry
And inexpensive Chinese funerals;

That, with the thunder of artillery,
And sack of goodly cities, there may be
Restored again that wholesome deference,
That usual and necessary respect
Which, from the Asiatic, is our due—
And thus, from evil, shall arise great good.

—Tung Chia, in "Lays and Relays."

Miscellaneous.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

(BY TELEGRAPH.)

6th June.

The Western religion has existed and been disseminated throughout China for many years, while those who disseminated it have done nothing except to exhort people to do good. Moreover, converts to the religion have never, under the protection of religion, raised up disturbances: hence converts and the people at large have always remained at peace with one another, each going his own way without let or hindrance. Of late years, however, with the constant increase of Western churches throughout the country and the consequent overwhelming numbers of converts joining them, men of evil character have stealthily gained a footing into their ranks, making it difficult, under the circumstances, for missionaries to distinguish the good from the bad amongst the converts. Taking advantage of this, these evil characters have accordingly, under the guise of being Christians, harassed the common people and bullied the countryside; but we are of opinion however that, perhaps, such a condition of affairs cannot have been viewed with favour by the Missionaries themselves. As to the Iho-Ch'uan (Patriots and Champions of Peace) Society, this organisation was first prohibited during the reign of the Emperor Chia Ch'ing (1795-1820). Owing, however, to the fact that, of late, the members of this Society simply trained themselves for purposes of self-protection and to defend their homes and villages from attack, and moreover because they had abstained from creating trouble We [did not issue our ban of prohibition according to precedent but] merely sent repeated instructions to the local authorities concerned to keep a proper restraint on the movements of the Society. We pointed out to the said authorities that the present was not a question of whether these people were Society-men or not, but that the point was whether, being banded together, their object was to create trouble in the country or not. If, then, the Society-men should indeed rise up and break the peace it should be the duty of the authorities to make a strict search for the lawbreakers and punish them according to law. Whoever these parties may be, whether Christians or Society-men, the Throne makes no difference in its treatment of them, for they are all the subjects (children) of the Empire. Moreover, even in cases of litigation between Christians and the common people our instructions have ever been that the authorities settle them according to the rights of the matter, no favour being allowed to be shown to either party. It transpires, however, that our commands have of late years never been obeyed. The officials of the various prefectures, sub-prefectures, departments and districts have been proved to have neglected their duties; they have neither acted in friendly conjunction with the missionaries, sympathised with the people under them in their difficulties, nor settled litigation in the spirit of impartiality, and the consequence has been that those concerned began to hate one another, the enmity becoming deeper and deeper as occasions for ill-will multiplied. On account of this, therefore, we now find

the members of the Iho-Ch'uan Society banding themselves together as village militia and declaring war against the Christians. In the meantime, we find discontented spirits in conjunction with lawless ruffians joining in the movement for their own ends; riots are the order of the day; railways are destroyed and churches are burnt down. Now the railways were constructed by, and are the property of the Government, whilst churches were built by the missionaries and their converts for their own occupation. Do these Society-men and others then think that they will be allowed to destroy and burn at their own sweet will? In thus running riot these people are simply opposing themselves to the Government. This is really beyond reason. We, therefore, appointed Chao Shu-ch'iao, Grand Councillor and Governor Adjunct of Peking, to proceed yesterday as our Imperial Commissioner to restore peace and to call upon the people and Society-men to immediately disband and return each man to his own avocations and daily work. Should traitors and revolutionary Society-men try to stir up the people to rise up and pillage and destroy the countryside, we hereby call upon the Iho-Ch'uan people to hand over to the authorities the ringleaders for punishment according to the laws of the land. Should any be so misguided as to persist in disobeying these our commands they shall be treated as rebels, and we hereby warn them that when the Grand Army arrives, their fathers, mothers, wives and children will be separated from one another and scattered, their homes destroyed and they themselves slain. They will also bring upon themselves the stigma of disloyalty and of being false to their country, for it will then be too late to repent. Our heart is filled with pity when we think of the retribution that will then overwhelm our people. We, therefore, hereby declare that if, after this warning, should there be still any who refuse to obey our commands, we will immediately order the Generalsissimo, Jung Lu, to send Generals Tung Fu-shiang (Kunwu Corps), Sung Ch'ing and Ma Yü-k'un (Szech'uan Corps), with their commands to punish these rebels and to disperse them. Finally, in sending troops out the primary purpose is to protect the law-abiding people; but we now hear that those sent out by the Chihli provincial authorities have not only failed in affording such protection and restraining evil characters but, on the contrary, have themselves been guilty of preying upon the countryside. We now hereby command Yü Lu, Viceroy of Chihli, to investigate this matter at once, and also to send trusty deputies to make secret investigations. If it be found that these military officials have indeed been guilty of encouraging their men to loot and pillage, such guilty officers are to be summarily executed. There must be no leniency or mercy shown to such. Let this our decree be copied out on yellow paper and posted throughout the country as a warning to people and army, and that all may know our commands.

NOTE:—It will be seen from the above decree that, even at this late hour, the advisers of the Empress Dowager are still intent upon screening the so-called "Boxers," making out the recent outrages to have been made by "militia men," traitors and revolutionary Society-men.—Translator.

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(2) alt 268

16th May, 1900.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE. ANNUAL INSPECTION.

The annual inspection of the Shanghai Municipal Police by the Council took place on Wednesday (6th) afternoon in the grounds of the British Consulate. The men, European, Sikh, and Chinese, marched from their various stations and reached the appointed place shortly before half-past five. There they were drawn up, the mounted Sikhs, nine in number, under Sergt. Spottiswoode, being on the right of the line, and the remainder placed solidly, Europeans in front, Sikhs next, and last the array of blue-clad Chinese. The men looked extremely well, as was generally remarked among the number of residents who were present. Shortly after half-past five the members of the Council, headed by the Chairman, Mr. E. A. Hewett, arrived, and were received with a general salute. Then the order "Shoulder arms!" was given, and an inspection of the ranks was made by the Council, accompanied by the Captain-Superintendent, Captain P. B. Pattison, who commanded the parade. A return of the number present was handed to Mr. Hewett by a Chinese constable, with a smart salute. Later Mr. Hewett addressing the men, said:—

I have much pleasure on behalf of the Council and the Shanghai community, whom we have the honour of representing, in congratulating you, not only upon the very fine appearance you make here to-day, but also on the completion of another good year's work. The last time I saw you on parade was the occasion when you had the honour of being inspected by H. R. H. Prince Henry of Prussia. His Royal Highness not only was good enough to express his pleasure at having an opportunity for inspecting you, but he also added that from knowledge gained during his visit to Shanghai he was impressed with the manner in which the policing of the town was carried out. Such commendation, coming from so high a quarter, must I am sure be a source of great gratification to the members of the Force. As is only natural when we remember the large number of men in the force, a few questions have arisen in individual cases during the past year which I for one would gladly have foregone. I merely make this reference to the past in order to state that while the Council intends to continue the policy of its predecessors in carrying out to the full its obligations to the individual members of the Force, it expects that these in their turn will remember their side of the bargain.

I am glad to see our new recruits on the ground to-day. I would take this opportunity of telling them that the conditions of life out here are in some respects widely different from what they have known before, and they may at first miss much to which they have been accustomed. This however is a condition common to all of us who are living away from our respective native lands. There is, however, much to be found in Shanghai to compensate for what we all lose by living in a foreign country.

It would not be fitting were I to omit special reference to this, the first appearance on parade of the son of your late Chief, Captain McEuen. I gladly embrace this opportunity for paying my small meed of tribute to the memory of a man who during the many years he spent among us, set a high example of single-mindedness and devotion to duty, which I think might well serve as a model to all of us.

It is with regret that I miss from parade to-day, the well-known form of one of your oldest members. By the sudden death of Inspector Reed the Force loses a capable and hard working officer, and the community an old and esteemed servant.

I am glad to find that during the past year we have received further applications from old members of the force for employment for relatives. I should like to receive still more applications of this nature, as they go to show that after years of experience some of you, at all events, recognise that the Municipal service is such as you can confidently recommend to your friends. There is one other point to which I must specially refer, as you are aware the Council has recently instituted classes for the study of Chinese. I can claim that already the experimental stage has been passed. On the whole the progress made has been good. As you will have learned already, several of your members have derived material benefit as the result of their labours.

I would like to see every single foreigner in the force join these classes. The Council will give you all possible facilities for doing so, for it is obvious that, for the Police Force to be efficient the members must have a certain knowledge at least of the colloquial language of the people among whom their work chiefly lies. This, I would impress upon you, is more than ever necessary in the higher branches of the service. It is pleasant to see that while you attend so well to your duties you do not neglect considerations affecting your health, and I must congratulate you as a body on the prowess gained by some of your number on the athletic field. I would like to see the Police Sports become an annual event in Shanghai. I think the interest which the public so manifestly showed in your meeting last autumn should encourage you to further efforts in this direction. The friendly rivalry such contests engender goes far towards promoting that good fellowship which is so essential if the individual members of the force are to work harmoniously together. In conclusion I feel that judging by your past record I can safely predict a twelvemonth hence the then Chairman of the Council will be able to congratulate you on as good a year's record as I am fortunately able to do to-day. For myself I can only say that I shall always recall with pride the fact that as Chairman of the Watch Committee I have been associated with so fine a body of men as the Shanghai Municipal Police.

Captain Pattison replied briefly and suitably to this, and the proceedings ended. The men were marched again to their stations, and it was notable that a squad of drilled Chinese, in putties and ammunition boots, did extremely well. The other Chinese, not yet drilled, struck, to put it mildly, a sharp note of contrast.

OF INTEREST TO MARINERS.

We are asked by the Harbour Master to publish the following letter for general information.

P. & O. S.N. Co. S.S. Socotra, Shanghai, 6th June

DEAR SIR,—I beg to report that on our passage from Moji to Shanghai at 9.40 p.m. on 5th June we experienced two severe shocks as if the ship had struck ground. Our position at the time was Lat. 32.9 N. Long. 125.7 E. (from stellar observation at 7.53 p.m.) wind N.E. force 3.4, bright moonlight night with a moderate south-easterly swell, causing ship to rise and fall slightly and roll a few degrees either way. We sounded the ship's bells immediately but found everything normal. I deemed it imprudent to turn round and sound as it was night time and discoloured water would of course not be visible. The depth on our chart Admiralty, No. 2412 (January 97) shows 23 fathoms at that position and is 7 miles north of Shanghai patch (9 fathoms 1896). It is quite possible the shocks may have been due to an earthquake but the sensa-

tion was similar to grounding or a heavy collision. Will you kindly submit a copy of my letter to the Harbour Master who might ask a vessel passing in the vicinity of that position in daytime to take a few casts of the lead and verify the soundings on chart? It is possible that the Shanghai patch may be of greater extent than shown on the chart.

The soundings of the ship's wells continue normal and I can detect no signs of any strain in the ship.

I beg to remain, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) THOMAS H. HIDE,
Commander.

The Agent P. & O. S. N. Co.,
Shanghai.

The draught of the Socotra at the time was 19 and 20 feet.

THE PAOTINGFU REFUGEES.

A SURVIVOR'S STORY.

We are able to give this week the story of the flight of the unfortunate Europeans from Paotingfu, and their adventures on the way to Tientsin. They reached that place on Saturday, the 4th instant, at four in the afternoon. Some were wounded, all were ragged, footsore, and utterly weary. One woman, both of whose legs were wounded, had to be carried in a chair. Soon after arrival, and the giving out of the news that certain of the party had been lost, a party of Cossacks went out to try and find them, but their search in the neighbourhood was unavailing. The next news came from a Chinese servant, who came in and stated that he had seen the dead bodies of M. Ossent and Mme. Astier, the latter mutilated. Altogether nine of the 41 who originally set out are missing.

The story of the woeful march is as follows:—

Owing to the massacres, troubles and pillaging in the neighbourhood, and the threats of the Boxers to kill all foreigners, and hearing of the burning of Fengtai, the station that was our junction with the main line, Mr. Ossent, Chief Engineer, gave us an order to leave Paoting on Monday, the 28th May, during the night. But he changed his mind, and ordered us to leave next day, the 29th, at four in the afternoon. Mr. Ossent ordered the river route to be followed as the railway had been wrecked by the Boxers. On Tuesday, the 29th, we therefore left Paoting, being 41 Europeans—33 men, 7 women, 1 child. We embarked in 12 boats manned by Chinese sailors, the mandarin Sun, Interpreter Tsing, and some other Chinese employees accompanying us, besides several boys (servants) and coolies, as well as the soldiers (Chinese) sent by the mandarin to protect the boats.

The Europeans were mostly armed with revolvers and a certain number of old Mausers. We weighed anchor about 5 p.m. and left in perfect order. An enormous hostile crowd was present, but beyond some shouting and jeering did not display any hostility. A great number of the crowd were armed with big sticks, and many of them wore the red belt of the Boxers. After about an hour's journey Mr. Ossent, on the advice of Mandarin Sun, gave us the order to go down and close the hatchways in passing certain localities said to be dangerous. We objected to this, as in case of an attack we should be helpless and we had no faith in the Chinese soldiers. We were all on the qui vive as certain friendly Chinese had told us the day before that we were sure to be attacked, and one was even able to tell us the exact place where the attack would be made. Notwithstanding this, Mr. Ossent ordered the hatchways to be closed. The heat was intense. We halted in the

evening and for a little time left our floating prison to get fresh air. On Wednesday morning early we continued our journey till four in the afternoon. The Mandarin Sun, after talking with Interpreter Tsing, said he must go back to Pao-tung. He left us at 5 p.m. About 8 p.m. close to a basin formed by the river, the attitude of the Chinese became more hostile, and certain Europeans felt convinced an attack would soon be made. At 12 p.m. we weighed anchor. As soon as it was daylight the Interpreter Tsing ran along the line of boats and ordered us to close all hatches. We refused, but they would not listen to us, and the soldiers closed the hatchways and put all our boxes down. If a European moved the hatch to get a breath of air a soldier closed it at once and laughed at us. We felt we could not defend ourselves. At 6 a.m. we heard rifles and tried to get out. Each one jumped ashore, men, boys, soldiers and all. Some of our boats had their prows to a town and some the other way. As soon as we got ashore the Europeans formed into small groups and responded to the fire that was directed at us. In this attack some of us were wounded. We found ourselves in front of a large town of which we could not learn the name. The wall was covered with men, with lances and swords and guns. The fighting became general. All the Europeans, with the exception of Mr. Ossent, his sister Mrs. Astier, Messrs. Cadei and Pessaro—who were in one boat and had jumped on the opposite side of the river—were now together fighting. None of us could tell exactly the situation of Mr. Ossent, but in the fight there was no time to think of them. Each party thought they were with the other. Messrs. Deviment and Pagoni and several other people say they saw at this moment the Interpreter Tsing rise from the side of the river where our assailants were, and in no way try to help us. Firing went on furiously on both sides of the river and savage cries of Boxers, who fired cannon from the wall, but aimed so badly they never hit us. Mons. Deviment says he saw the soldiers of our escort join the enemy and fire on us. Others testify to the same fact.

The Boxers, seeing the boats empty, jumped in and pulled the boats away from us. We had now to take to the interior, several of us half clothed, and some with no shoes, having lost them in the mud. We kept on, now and then turning to fire on the enemy, who stopped and ran back when we killed anyone, but came after us again, dragging a cannon, which they fired after us, but never succeeded in hitting us. We came to a large pond of water which we had to cross. Messrs. Iylbert, a Belgian, and Wilden, a Frenchman, jumped in and fetched a boat we saw, and soon the whole of us got to the opposite side. In the meanwhile numbers of peasants, hearing the firing, came out in crowds, and Boxers appeared from all sides. We marched on for three or four miles, killing a good number of Boxers, who were always checked for a time by our fire. The heat was intense. At last we got to a farm house where we got a drink and a bit of bread. We tried to buy a mule but they would not sell it. The enemy were somewhat discouraged but again came up, following us. We halted to count our numbers, and then for the first time found that Mons. Ossent and Madame Astier and seven others were missing. We did not know what to do. We dared not go back, and hoped that they also might have escaped along the other bank of the river. Had we gone back it would have resulted in the loss of our entire number, and we could not leave the women. The band of Boxers had again increased enormously, and we fired again and again, they stopped. We marched on in the blazing sun and at

3 p.m. saw a large village, where there appeared to be a fair going on. We marched again by the bank of the river. There were several carts in the road. The villagers rushed out, but seemed only curious. One Chinaman came and offered to come with us, and show us the way. We said, "Yes," and passed through the village quickly. The carts all began to go off fast. The Boxers were now coming up again, and trying to incite the villagers to attack us, but they did not join them. Now began a new fight. They fired their cannon at us once, and we lay down and returned the fire, all the villagers watching. We killed four Boxers and wounded a large number, and they then showed disinclination to continue the attack. The crowd got to one side and showed surprise and some pleasure each time a Boxer was hit. We now got a rest and again went for the river. A covered boat was at the opposite bank. Mr. Wilden (French), Mr. Jacobo (Belgian) brought the boat to us, in which we put the women and child, and a Chinaman came and took charge of the boat. Eight of us marched on the river bank to keep watch on the crowd. Mons. Yahni, a Greek, employed by the Engineers—who up to this time had marched with the little daughter of Mons. Hespel on his shoulder—undertook to tow the boat. In this way we started. Messrs. Pagan, Georges, and Waltherthum formed a rear-guard. They came across a party of Boxers in ambush 300 yards from the river bank, but as they did not show any inclination to attack us when they saw we had rifles, and as it was late, we pushed on past them and took no notice. After marching for several hours in the dreadful heat we got to Tientsin Bund, and were taken to the Astor House Hotel, where we were kindly treated and safe.

MY SAILING ADVENTURE.

From robber bands in stranger lands,
From perils of the sea,
From sailing boats, or aught that floats,
Good Lord, deliver me.

Since journalism has been spoken of as the Nazareth of literature, and since—in this connection only—I am a Nazarene, a discerning public withholds from me an appreciation lavished on men of lesser soul. Time was when I reiled a keen annoyance in the many-coloured garment of youthful cynicism. I looked with sad eyes on a dull world. Even now I sigh for "les beaux jours quand nous étions si malheureux!" Many days have brushed quick-flying wings upon me since then, and I have outgrown, among other things, my distaste for this best of all possible worlds. I have even arrived at the point of realising that the appreciation of honest Hodge, multiplied indefinitely, is a thing to be desired. True, it is evanescent, a thing of to-day, passing like moonbeams, but its temporary possession is a jewel of price. It holds the secret of such comforts as are the natural desire of a man. The praise of the competent few is better always, and may take the ear of posterity. Answer me, however, you of the elect, whether a mortgage on the appreciation of generations yet unborn be not a poor diet for a very present hunger. By your speech shall I know you.

Let the aforesaid discerning public put aside for a moment its distrust of that Nazareth which is journalism, and credit me with an occasional quick flush of sincerity. So, gentlefolk all, your minds tuned to my plaint, let me repeat my prayer for deliverance from sailing boats—traps for the unwary, moving cradles of infinite discomfort. The story I would tell is not of yesterday. In the East, where there is sun, we do not rush into print. We amble very gently. It will be generally admitted that Fleet Street is not in China.

There had been racing, much racing, and I had been occupied very fully with the idiosyncracies of an obstinate centreboard, and the constant desire of that living and evil-disposed thing, the boat, to move through the water at such an acute and unpleasant angle that the rudder was sometimes useless, and the boom in imminent danger of entering the water and thus capsizing us. I will not speak of the damage done to a valuable sun-hat, nor of the loss of treasured dignity in throwing myself into unwonted positions in order to balance the boat. I was a vivified bag of ballast, capable of receiving and keeping bruises in great number and of rare and curious shades. To touch upon these—quod avertit Deus—would be too painful. Let the objectionable and multiplicitous impression fade.

Several times in that day had I, always with my friend, sought physical refreshment in bathing. Now, when the racing was over, he proposed that we should sail away again for our last bathe, send the houseboat to await us a distance of five miles, and run down to it in the cool evening. I consented, not knowing that the next hour should bring forth bitter fruit. Now, earlier in the day a wind gusty as a rheumatic temper had compelled the taking in of two reefs in the sail. When we started for our bathe, however, we fell upon other weather. We flirted round a corner into a still green creek, where the wind filtered at us, gently as to the shorn lamb. This was the slow dying of the day, and time was of account. Therefore I was bidden to "shake out" a reef.

Here let me, after the manner of Ariosto, digress awhile. I would have you, kind reader, stand aside from the action of my story. Nero's fiddling was done at a distance from burning Rome. For some weeks previous to this time I had, at sharply-defined periods, wrestled wordily with a Chinese tailor, to the end that I might wear a suit becomingly light, and which should not betray too strongly that disinclination for the supreme outline of the human figure which is characteristic of clothes in this land. I had attained some measure of success, and I valued the result, not in any pictorial sense, but as representing such self-restraint as is, with me, rare and creditable. Eheu!

Figure me, then, unsteadily standing, fumbling with unwonted hands to "shake out," slowly unslashing that miserable reef outwards from the mast to the end of the boom. One by one the knots gave, until the last and worst remained. By this time I was standing astride the tiller, the main-sheet stretched lightly across my legs. I reached a long arm to that fatal knot, and fumbled vainly. Then did evil chance send a puff of wind, the sail filled to it, the boom flew from me, the main-sheet rapped taut upon my shins, and—I lost my balance. A sharp muscular contraction fetched me back somewhat, I spun round, lurched into my friend's arms, and in a horrid second we had found the water together. Fully-clothed I plumbed the oozy depth of that creek, filling my hands with what seemed to me the ultimate slime. Green reeds bound themselves about me as I rose and headed for shallow water. Then I emerged, clad in garments which were a frank indiscretion, decked unhand-somely with the green life of the water. Hard and bitter words beat at my ears—I had, be it remembered, involved another in my mishap.

Night had fallen, and the horned moon rode in a sky bediamonded with stars. Under the stars and the moon a small boat moved upon the face of the waters. In the boat, blown upon by the fresh breath of evening we were silent—and very chill. Generous darkness hid

our deficiency from all but the unwinking stars. Dinner hour was long past, and hunger was known to us as a close companion. There were only the water-noises and the distant barking of village dogs—loneliest of sounds. From creek to creek we glided spectral through the night, until we came upon that broader water wherein lay our houseboat. Ahead were the infrequent lights of Chinese houses, and the darker masses of black which were boats upon the water. Swiftly we drew upon this, until we heard a hail.

"Who would sell a farm and go to sea?" I asked.

A grunt answered me, as we came deftly alongside and leapt hurriedly aboard.

L. H.

A REVIEW OF THE YEAR.*

BY A. P. PARKER, D. D.

I venture to think that at this, the last meeting of our Association for the present season, it will not be without interest and profit if we devote the time allotted for the evening to a review of the past year, in order that we may refresh our memories in regard to some of the more important events that have taken place since our last adjournment in June 1899. With your permission, therefore, I will undertake to recall some of the occurrences of the past 12 months, first in the world at large, second in China, and third, in connection with this Association. In a survey of the world for the year, the war in South Africa is, of course, the event that first attracts our attention. Begun within two weeks after the first meeting of this Association in October last, it soon developed into a far more serious affair than the most of us, Americans and English, thought it was going to be. Without, however, going into details in regard to the progress of this war, or discussing the rights and wrongs of the questions at issue between the Dutch and English in South Africa, two things, it seems to me, stand out perfectly clear to every observer:

(1.) That it will be infinitely better for the world in general and for South Africa in particular that the British should conquer the Boers, which, as it now appears, they are likely to do very soon, and establish a permanent peace under the enlightened and liberty-giving sway of that race whose very name stands to-day as the synonym for freedom and good government, civilisation and progress, throughout the world. (2.) That the war, however much it has cost, and may yet cost, the British people in blood and treasure, has brought about one result, the value of which as a potent factor in the continued predominance of the Anglo-Saxon race in the affairs of the world, it is impossible to fully estimate. That result is the practical federation of the British Empire. The best blood of England's colonies has mingled with that of the sons of the mother country amidst the storm and stress of the battlefield, and it has cemented together the integral parts of the great empire in stronger bonds than any amount of mere academic discussion or even community of commercial interests could possibly have done. With a Federation Parliament sitting at Westminster, composed of representatives from all parts of that great empire, the tap of whose drum beat is heard around the world, the supremacy of the Anglo-Saxon race is assured, and liberty, civil and religious, with all its benign influences, will, more and more, become the heritage of the nations of the earth.

The successful effort of the United States Government to secure "The Open Door" in China is another event of world-

wide importance that has occurred during the present term of our Association. That Mr. Hay, United States Secretary of State, has been able to secure a written agreement from all the principal Powers of Europe, and also from Japan, guaranteeing free trade and the maintenance of treaty rights in all those parts of China that have already, or may hereafter, come within the spheres of influence of any of these Powers, as well as throughout China in general, is a source of very great satisfaction to all concerned, and especially to all Englishmen and Americans whose homes are on these Far Eastern shores.

Two results will, I think, necessarily follow: (1) The integrity of China as a nation is placed on a firmer basis than it has occupied for many years past. It seems plain now that the country will not be divided up among the foreign Powers, as we have had too much reason to believe would be the case, especially in the last three or four years. (2) The union of the two great English-speaking nations of the world thereby becomes measurably stronger. This act of the American government is a distinct step in the direction of coming to the assistance of England where that assistance was needed. The other nations of the world must be pretty well convinced by this time that if, for any reason, they should wish to pick a quarrel with one of these nations they must reckon with the other also.

A recent telegram to the effect that Secretary Hay has asked the British Government to join the United States in taking immediate action to protect British and American citizens in person and property from the attacks of the "Boxers" and other mobs in the north of China and elsewhere, gives added emphasis to the above statements, and affords another proof of the close relations existing between the two great English-speaking nations, a condition of things that we all earnestly desire to see strengthened by every possible means.

A third event of world-wide importance was the Ecumenical Conference of Foreign Missions that met in New York the last days of April. That nearly 2,500 missionaries and others interested in the Great Christian Propaganda, coming from all parts of the habitable globe, have met in the metropolis of the New World to devise ways and means for the better prosecution of the one chief work of the Christian Church, that is the evangelisation of the heathen, is an event that must strongly impress the imagination of every thoughtful observer of the times. The interchange of thought and feeling among so many men and women of ripe experience, wide observation, and burning zeal, must result in giving a great impetus to the cause of world-wide Missions.

The very full accounts of the Conference given in the New York "Tribune" and in the N. Y. "Times" show it to have been a most wonderful meeting indeed. About 2,500 delegates were present from all parts of the world, a large proportion of whom were missionaries. The great Carnegie Hall, with a seating capacity of 7,000, was crowded to the roof at every meeting, forenoon, afternoon, and evening, while sectional and overflow meetings were held in many of the large churches of the city. The papers and discussions covered the whole range of Missionary Policy, and between 15,000 and 20,000 persons assembled daily, at the various places of meeting, heard the high things of the kingdom of God discussed by the ablest leaders in the great cause, while the published reports in the secular and religious press throughout the country centred the thought of a continent upon this the greatest gathering of the closing years of nineteenth century.

According to the Report made by the Committee on Statistics, there are now in the various foreign Mission Fields in the

world, 15,460 foreign workers, men and women; 77,338 native workers of all kinds; 1,317,684 native Christians, actual communicants; and a total native Christian community, including adherents, of 4,414,236. So mightily has the word of God grown and multiplied in heathen lands!

Other events of the year might well claim our attention if we had the time to dwell on them, such as the great famine in India, which, covering an area of 400,000 square miles, and involving a population of 36,000,000 of people, of whom near five and a half million are being supported by the government, makes it the worst famine that has ever devastated that fair land; or the great World's Exposition at Paris, and other occurrences more or less worthy of mention. But I must pass on to note a few events that have occurred in the land of our adoption.

II. Turning now to China, therefore, the feeling that will be uppermost in our minds, no doubt, will be one of disappointment that, so far as the present political outlook is concerned, we do not seem to be any nearer getting relief from the reactionary forces that dominate Peking than we were at the beginning of last autumn. The Empress Dowager, with her ultra-conservative advisers, continues to hold sway in the Northern Capital, and no leader has yet arisen among the people who is strong enough to break their power and make it possible for the rightful ruler, the Emperor Kuang Hsi, to exercise real authority again. It is true that their avowed purpose to set aside the Emperor and place a puppet on the throne, in the person of a nine year old boy, which was to have been done at the beginning of the present Chinese year, was frustrated by the patriotic protests of many of the leaders of the people throughout the central and southern provinces. And this failure, especially the cause that produced it, prevents us from despairing utterly of this country. There must be some life in the old land yet. And indeed there are many evidences that the new life that the missionaries have brought into the country is taking root in the soil and it will yet grow and produce abundant fruit in a renovated, reformed, and saved people.

The past twelve months have been especially noted for the proscription of the reformers by the Empress Dowager and her advisers. They have threatened wholesale penalties imprisonment, execution, banishment, confiscation, and what not, upon the heads of the men who have dared to counsel a change in the methods of government so as to adapt it to the new conditions of the present times and bring relief from the heavy burdens under which the people groan and suffer. A black list was made out by the Empress Dowager's orders last fall containing the names of some 300 leading reformers who were to be visited with condign punishment. Fortunately the old Empress has not been able to carry out her threats to the extent that she intended. Many of the proscribed men moved into the foreign Settlements at the open ports and thus escaped arrest. Of those who were actually arrested for the purpose of being summarily executed, was notably the Emperor's former tutor, Weng Tung-ho, and another leading statesman, both of whom live at Cha'ngshu; none have been put to death, the sentences having been commuted to banishment, or imprisonment for life. Oue, King Lien-shan, the former head of the Telegraph Administration here in Shanghai, is now under confinement by the Portuguese authorities in Macao, having been arrested at the instance of the Chinese government on a trumped up charge of having embezzled some of the funds of the Telegraph Department. But he is safer in the Portuguese prison than he would be at large, as the paid assassin cannot reach him there.

Again we have, during the past twelve months, witnessed the revival of a state of affairs with which the missionaries in the

* Read before the Shanghai Missionary Association, June 5th, 1900.

interior have become altogether too familiar during the last ten years. I refer to the organisation of secret societies, having for their object to drive the missionaries and other foreigners out of the country. In 1891 a most determined effort was made to accomplish this purpose by the so-called Kolao Hui. An organised band of rioters, secretly fostered by the Chinese government, began at Wuhu by burning the R. C. Cathedral, and from there they moved down the Yangtze Valley, burning, looting, and destroying mission chapels and homes, in a number of the towns and cities all the way to Soochow. Their last attempt that season to burn mission premises was in Soochow but it was frustrated by the prompt action of the local officials. Several similar attacks have been made in the past few years, on missionaries in different parts of the country, as in the Kucheng massacre in 1895, when Mr. Stewart and eleven women and children were murdered; the riots in Szechuan, in the same year; and others, on a larger or a smaller scale, all of them with the more or less clearly avowed purpose of driving out the foreigners. For while the name of these societies and their methods of operations change, their object remains ever the same.

The past twelve months have witnessed a most determined revival of this effort to expel the foreigners by means of the exploits of the "Boxers" of Shantung and Chihli, a secret society whose members have been attacking Roman Catholic and Protestant Christians, burning down their houses, looting their property, killing the people, and threatening destruction in general on foreigners and all who have anything to do with them. Hundreds of poor Christians have been left homeless in the bitter northern winter, and many lives have been sacrificed. The outrages culminated in the murder of Mr. Brooks, a missionary of the S.P.G., in Shantung, under circumstances of exceptional barbarity.

Abundant evidence of the most reliable character has been produced by the missionaries in those provinces to show that the central government at Peking has secretly encouraged these rioters in the insane hope that the hated foreigners may be driven out of the country. But happily, the expressed determination of the four foreign Powers chiefly concerned, England, America, Germany and France, to take the matter in their own hands and put down the rioters, if the Chinese government could not or would not do it, has, apparently, brought the old Empress and her advisers somewhat to their senses. The result has been the trial and execution of some of the murderers of Mr. Brooks; and some, apparently real, effort to check the "Boxers" in their favourite amusement of missionary-baiting. But unless some adequate measures are taken to hold the Peking government strictly responsible for such outrages similar attacks will occur again in the near future. In fact we are right now in the midst of the season for such missionary-baiting. According to a recent editorial in the "N.-C. Daily News," "of the thirty-four first class riots that have occurred since 1842, just one half of the number took place in the months of May and June, and of these, eleven have occurred in June." This fact goes far to prove the deliberate and premeditated character of these attacks on missionaries, which fact, with much other plain and indisputable evidence, proves the complicity of the Chinese government in them.

The above was written three weeks ago. The news to hand from the North within the last few days telling of the massacre of more than seventy Christians in Chihli; the attack on the Belgian engineers on the Peking-Pootung Railway; the destruction of a large amount of railway property; and the reported burning of the mission

premises in Pootung—all combine to show a most serious state of affairs. Surely now the foreign governments will do something in earnest to prevent the reactionaries in charge at Peking from carrying out their very evident intention of killing or expelling from the country all the foreigners in North China.

The Christian Endeavour Convention, held in Foochow in April, was an event of national, if not of international, importance. The presence of a considerable number of delegates from different parts of China; the attendance of over fifteen hundred at the principal daily meetings; the enthusiasm displayed—all go to show that the convention was a success in every way. The special feature of the convention was the presence of Dr. F. E. Clark, the founder of the movement. His visit, together with that of his wife, who, like himself, is thoroughly devoted to the promotion of Christian Endeavour, has given a great impetus to this very important form of Christian work in China.

A movement that, beginning with one small society in a single church in Portland, Me., some twenty years ago, has grown until to-day it numbers more than 50,000 societies with about 3,500,000 members throughout the world, is one of the signs of the times, and by the very fact of its magnitude should command the earnest attention and hearty support of all Christian workers.

The past 12 months have been marked by wonderful success in missionary work in China. Reports come from many parts of the country of large gatherings of converts; of wide open doors for the entrance of the gospel; of eagerness on the part of the people to have the foreign missionary or the native preacher come among them and teach them the truth. Dr. Ross, of the Scotch Presbyterian Mission in Manchuria, who passed through Shanghai in March last on his way home for a furlough, told me that there are now 20,000 baptised Christians in Manchuria, 10,000 candidates awaiting baptism, and 20,000 more who are believers and inquirers—a Christian community of 50,000, where, less than ten years ago, the whole number of Christians and adherents was scarcely more than 1,000.

News of a similar kind comes from Fukien, Chékiang, Hupeh, Hunan, Kiangsi, Shantung, Chihli, and other parts of the empire. Wonderful revivals have occurred in the Anglo-Chinese College at Foochow; in the Methodist Mission in Peking; in the American Board College at Tungchow, and other places. Altogether the progress of the work during the past twelve months has been most gratifying and we may well thank God and take courage, for indeed the kingdom is the Lord's.

Turning now to the doings of our own Association, we note, first, that the year has been marked by an event of considerable importance in our history, viz., the permanent location of our meetings in the Union Church Hall. This move has, so far as I have heard, given general satisfaction to the members of the Association. A central location; a commodious and well lighted hall for the meetings; a good-sized room, well supplied with appliances for entertaining the social gatherings; to which may be added the fact that now all the members may, in their turn, have an opportunity to assist in the entertainment, make this move altogether a most happy one. I take great pleasure, therefore, in extending to the members of the Hall Committee, in the name of the Association, our hearty thanks for the generous terms on which they have allowed us the use of that part of the Hall which we occupy for our monthly meeting.

The sale of the chairs and crockery belonging to the Association, soon after our permanent location in this hall, was effected at a reasonable price (\$75) for all concerned. We have thus disposed of

property for which we had no further use and have at the same time secured funds to meet current expenses without making an assessment upon the members of the Association.

I think I will be borne out by the members of the Association in saying that we have had a series of very interesting papers and discussions at the monthly meetings of the term that has just ended.

At our first meeting in October, we had a paper by the Rev. C. E. Derwent on "The Gospel of the Kingdom," which was full of suggestion and stimulus in regard to the great object for which we have all come to China. In November, Mrs. Richard gave us a carefully prepared paper on "The Christian and Chinese Ideas of Womanhood," in which was set forth in a striking manner what Christianity has done for womanhood in Christian lands, and practical suggestions were made as to how to adapt our methods of Mission Work so as to more effectually and speedily bring to Chinese women those great blessings that their sisters in Christian lands have received through the cross of Christ.

In December, the Rev. J. C. Ferguson gave us a paper on the subject, "How Shall We Teach the Chinese Language and Literature in Our Schools and Colleges?" In this paper Mr. Ferguson, who has had considerable experience in school work in China, gave us the results of his observations in regard to the question, and some suggestions as to the line to be pursued in arriving at a solution of this very perplexing problem. The hearty interest with which the paper was received showed that the question was, and is, a very live one, and that the views set forth by Mr. Ferguson were for the most part approved of, while the hope was expressed that the work that he has begun, in preparing books better adapted to teaching the Chinese Language and Literature, would soon be available for others and produce such practical results as will be really helpful in this department of our school work.

As it is always in order to seek to expose error, whether in ourselves or others, so that we may avoid the error and find the truth, Mr. Bentley's paper, read at the January meeting, on "Some Fallacies in regard to Mission Work," was a very profitable one, in that it set in their proper light some of the erroneous views that are commonly held about mission work, in some cases by missionaries themselves, but more especially by those outside of the missionary circle, whose confidence in their own conclusions is often in inverse ratio to the accuracy of their information.

The Roman Catholics having, through pressure brought to bear upon the Chinese Government by the French Minister who, in his turn, was under the influence of the Roman Catholic Bishop at Peking, obtained for their clergy certain very important and wide-reaching official privileges, it became a question with Protestant missionaries whether we should not seek to obtain the same official status so as to avoid being placed at such a great disadvantage in our relation to the Roman Catholics and to the Chinese in general throughout the country. Our Association took up the subject early in the present term and appointed a Committee, consisting of the Rev. Timothy Richard and Dr. Y. J. Allen, to consider and report on it. One meeting, that for February, was devoted wholly to the discussion of the Committee's Report. The final outcome of the discussion was a resolution adopted by the Association, disclaiming all desire on our part for such political status as the Catholics have obtained. This resolution was transmitted to the British and American Ministers at Peking, and has no doubt had its due weight in deciding our representatives there not to ask the Chinese Government for any special official privileges for Pro-

testant missionaries other than those already secured to us by treaty right.

6.—Dr. Edkins, by reason of his thorough knowledge of Chinese history, religion and philosophy, was in his element in discussing "The Causes of the Decline of Buddhism and the Continued Success of Confucianism," at our meeting in March. Many interesting facts and views were brought out, and the paper was especially valuable as showing: (1) How that Buddhism, through the impractical nature of many of its tenets, had failed to become supreme in China; (2) How Confucianism with its common sense teachings held its own among the people. And (3), how Christianity by supplying the lack that exists in both Buddhism and Confucianism may be expected to finally triumph over them both.

7.—Mr. MacGillivray, in his paper on "The Twenty-Four Paragons of Filial Piety," presented in April, showed that he had made a thorough study of these ancient stories, and by his careful classification of the cases mentioned in the book, and the clear and interesting manner in which he brought out the details of the most important of the stories, gave added freshness and interest to these old legends, so that the paper was a highly entertaining and instructive one.

8.—The good people in the home lands are somewhat prone to criticise the missionary in regard to a good many things, and it need not be thought strange if the missionary feels like talking back just a little bit now and then. Moreover, it is reasonable to suppose that the missionary, by virtue of his position in the mission field, can see some things in the home land in their true perspective, and thus form a correct judgment in regard to them. Hence, Mr. Pott's paper on "A Missionary's Criticism of the Home Church," read at the May meeting, was a very interesting one in that it gave expression to thoughts that have often been in the minds of many of us, in regard to the way things are done in the home Churches. We may, I think, very reasonably hope that good will result from such a just and fair-minded discussion of this subject as was given in this paper.

In conclusion, I hope that the most, if not all, of the papers that have been read before the Association during the present term, will see the light in some periodical, either in China or in the Home land. They deserve a wider scope for usefulness than this Association, alone, affords.

OUR SCOTCH LETTER.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

"Seeing you have London and Paris letters from the standpoint of your own correspondents in these cities, perhaps a section of your readers may not think it amiss to have a Scotch letter from the standpoint of a fellow reader and countryman home in Scotland on holiday.

HOME HAUNTS AND HEALTH.

Much as we Scotchmen love the home country, perhaps the lapse of years, with occasional runs over to unique and lovely Japan, or may-be an overland home run through Italy and Switzerland, or Canada and the Rockies, make some forget the peculiar characteristics of our own scenery. To all such I recommend, if time will allow, a withdrawal from the city and town, and a plunge into the West Highlands. By keeping clear of the regular tourist routes, and quietly roaming through glens, over lochs, and across moors, with their ruggednesses, mists and weather, they will not only get strengthened nerves and invigorated bodies, but also a realisa-

tion of the peculiar and indescribable charms of beauty and grandeur in Scotch scenery.

HOME HURRY.

The recuperation thus obtained will prepare for the wear and tear involved in city sight-seeing or overtaking business engagements. The easy-going ways induced by Eastern experiences, and the attentions or inattentions of lowdahs, maficos, or richshamen, do not fit in with the prompt dispatch of city trains. Racing for a train, and training for a race soon seem to become synonymous terms. The development of city sub-way and suburban railways, especially in Glasgow, is the source of puzzled surprise to the home-comer. And when quiet country places, and more staid and beautiful Edinburgh, evidently not satisfied with its cable and horse cars, go in for bristling independent electric motors, you realise that conditions of home life are much changed. Soon, however, you forget to study the methods of conveyance and find much to interest in the conversation of fellow-passengers. Naturally the absorbing topic has been the war.

THE WAR.

During the few months I have been able to study the home aspect of affairs there has been an apparent decadence in pro-Boer sentiment and agitation. Several things have brought this about. Letters from South Africa, or visits to the home lands of ministers or missionaries at work among colonials or the native races, show that those who have had opportunities of dispassionately viewing the question (whose bias would rather be against war) recognise that war was inevitable. They furnish particulars of a far-back and sadly extensive conspiracy to drive the British out of South Africa (a conspiracy that depended for its final success on a hoped-for rising of the Cape Dutch and foreign intervention). Mistakes are admitted and the Jameson Raid vigorously condemned, but regrettable blunders on one side are no satisfactory excuse for broken promises on the part of the other. Then, too, the Boer treatment of the native races show how little they are fitted for the development of South Africa.

The decadence of the pro-Boer sentiment is partly owing also to the recognition on the part of many in the Free State and the Transvaal that they have been misled by their leaders. A letter from a minister of the Dutch Reformed Church at Harismith admits this in an appeal to the writer's fellow country-men and burghers. He declares that their leaders had not the welfare of their country at heart. "They were victims to the influences of motives of individual gain." Two other sentences are worthy of quotation: "Do you not know that thousands of your own kith and kin are enjoying in Natal and Cape Colony a full and perfect measure of equity and justice, which, as administered by Great Britain, is unparalleled in the world for perfection?" "The greatest civilising power that the world has ever seen is built on the foundation of peace and goodwill among men."

The sentiment of many peace-loving earnest people regarding war is that, whilst the taking up the sword is contrary to the spirit of Christianity, yet the fact that the spirit of Christianity does not rule in every heart renders it necessary for nations such as ours, with heavy responsibilities, to attend carefully to the thorough equipment of their armies and navies. If we had a perfect condition of things there would be no need for armaments; just as one would not require policemen or courts of justice, doctors or hospitals, if we were living in a perfect state, free from sin and suffering. Of course this sentiment is not at variance with the earnest longing for the universal reign of peace and goodwill.

The other outstanding impressions of this trying time have been the fortitude

of the people (especially during the days of disaster, when reverse after reverse was telegraphed home); the bravery of the soldiers, and the loyal and generous action of the colonies. The most regrettable phase of public excitement, perhaps, has been (especially in London) the constant expectancy of news of victory from a land where the distances to be travelled are great and the transport and other difficulties to be surmounted are innumerable.

AMUSEMENTS.

This heading is stuck in to make this letter somewhat in conformity to the letters you receive from other correspondents. Amusements have not been much in my line. Perhaps the most outstanding treat in the city has been the attendance at orchestral concerts, whilst in the country amusement has been found in studying other people's ideas of amusement. A good story is told of quiet Insch, a place I sometimes passed. At the close of the Highland games at that decent place, one of the competitors asked the local policeman when the theatre opened. The reply was: "We hae nae theatre in Insch." To the next query as to when the music hall opened, the sombre reply was: "Na, na, naething o' that kind here." Feeling as if the bottom had fallen out of his world the stranger ejaculated: "Good gracious me, man, have you no evening amusement in this outlandish place?" The encouraging reply was: "Ou, ay! If ye wait till aucht o'clock ye'll see them shunting the goods train."

There has been a noticeable development of interest in the ancient game of golf. Both in east and west, golf is the favourite means of recreation. The railway companies run special golfing trains. The trouble involved in getting up a new vocabulary has helped to keep me from participating. I hear that an old gentleman asked a little boy: "Do you know what becomes of little boys that use bad words when they are playing marbles?" The bad little boy replied: "Yes, they plays golf when they grows up."

Perhaps among amusements might be classed the study of the peculiar characteristics of the people in a part of the country hitherto unexplored by me. A few weeks recent residence in a county not previously visited, where the people are saving and shrewd, afforded interesting side lights, for instance I heard the remark made that there "they kept the Sabbath and everything else they could lay their hands on." Here also I heard an illuminating improvement on an old story: In this case the famed deceased left his fortune to "three" friends on condition that each would put £100 into his coffin. The first two honourably and speedily carried out their part. The third (a Scotchman, of course, and belonging, I suppose, to this particular district) is reported to have put a cheque for £300 into the coffin and abstracted the £200 in cash!

THE LATE DUKE OF ARGYLL.

From where I presently am staying I see the sun setting nightly with a golden glory behind the Argyllshire hills. I must not forget, therefore to refer to the death of the late Duke. He was a worthy descendant of a race of Highland chiefs, having also a good deal of the Highland seer in his character. As the old man eloquent in the House of Lords, as the author of "The Reign of Law," and other well-known works, and as the father-in-law of a daughter of the Queen, he occupied a prominent position. In several ways he had early beginnings; published a book when he was only 19, married at 21, became a Chancellor of a University when 28, and a year later was a Cabinet Minister. In differences between his tenantry the late Duke was frequently invited to arbitrate. To his usual preliminary query: "Will you abide by my award?" A

hard-headed old disputant once replied: "Well, your Grace, I'd like to ken first what it is."

CHURCH AND OTHER MATTERS.

A Scotch letter could hardly finish without a reference to Kirk affairs. The most notable ecclesiastical matter to report is the approaching union of the Free and United Presbyterian Churches. The special committee of these two great bodies have been most thorough in all union arrangements, and in keeping all the ministers and churches of both denominations in touch with them, have done much in welding fraternal bonds. I have been specially interested in the work of the Glasgow United Evangelistic Association. The magnitude of their enterprise is partly seen in the fact that the total expenditure for last year was £27,383 5s. 11d. During 26 years this Association has spent £289,738 11s. 3d. In addition to the ordinary evangelistic work, there are free breakfasts for poor children every Sunday; day refuges; dispensaries; ten beautiful homes in connection with the fresh air fortnight scheme which arranges for 7,000 poor sickly children being sent to the sea-shore from the slums. Space, however, prevents giving other details of this successful undertaking.

1st May.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

(Specially written for the North-China Daily News.)

VII.

The Fine Arts section of the Exhibition, opened by President Loubet on Tuesday and housed in the two new palaces on the Champs Elysées, is one of the largest and finest collections ever got together outside a permanent museum. It is nothing more or less than a rival to the Louvre. It could no more be properly described in a single article than a visitor could hope to see it thoroughly in a single day. Weeks would be necessary to the success of any intelligent attempt to grasp it in detail. It is an eloquent answer to the shallow critics who pretend that there is nothing to see in the Exhibition.

The art collections are divided into four groups—the Retrospective, Centennial and Decennial exhibitions of French art, and the foreign exhibits. The first of these four groups has the Petit Palais all to itself; the other three are to be found in the Grand Palais, a splendid building which will form an admirable home for future Salons. These three sections must necessarily be reserved for subsequent notice. At present it must suffice to mention their leading characteristics. The Centennial exhibition, consisting of works dating between 1800 and 1889, seems, curiously enough, fresher than the Decennial, which comprises no work of earlier date than the last Exposition Universelle. The reason is that the Centennial section is chiefly made up of pictures which have been hidden away in provincial museums and private collections and are consequently little known, whereas the Decennial exhibition is, to a great extent, a well-edited edition of the Salons of the last ten years. The sculpture display being very incomplete, its merits can hardly be estimated at present. The same remark applies to the foreign exhibits.

The Retrospective exhibition deals with art in the broadest sense of the term, that is to say, it covers not only pictures and statuary, but jewellery, carvings, furniture, goldsmith's and silversmith's work, tapestry and the like. It is a wonderful proof of the richness of French artistic genius from the very

earliest times, and what is almost as wonderful is that so many specimens of this art should have been preserved. Shrines have been melted down for the sake of the precious metals in them, tapestries have been burnt to obtain a few pounds' worth of gold or silver embroidery, statues have been smashed by fanatics who objected to the survival of relics of an "age of tyranny," ignorant curés have sold the treasures of their churches for new crosses and porcelain vases, and yet thousands of works of art have found their way into the care of private collectors or unvisited country museums and have been unearthed and brought together in Paris. All these riches have been admirably arranged. In the rooms looking on to the semicircular courtyard and facing the main entrance, the exhibits are arranged in series, while those in the outer rooms are disposed in periods. Thus, if the visitor desires to study ivories or jewellery or enamels, for instance, he will find all that he requires grouped together in one of the rooms of the inner row. If he wishes to obtain a general idea of the decorative arts of the fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth or eighteenth centuries, he will find furniture, jewellery, pictures and carvings of each period brought together for his convenience. The first room on the left, looking from the main entrance across the courtyard, is devoted to ivories; the second to iron, copper and bronze articles; the third to pottery and glass; the fourth to faïences and porcelain; the fifth to ecclesiastical objects d'art; the sixth to other gold and silver ware and enamels; the seventh to seals and medals and the eighth to miniatures. The outer rooms, also commencing from the left, are devoted to the middle ages, the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, Renaissance and Louis XIII periods, Louis XIV, Regency, Louis XV (three rooms) and Louis XVI (three rooms).

The tapestries, which are displayed in all the rooms, include some wonderful specimens. Most of the churches and cathedrals in France seem to have given of their best. Reims sends a series illustrating the "History of the False Clovis," Angers a "Life of St. Martin," Narbonne a very remarkable "Trinity," and Angers again a fourteenth century "Apocalypse," very quaint and precious. The eighteenth century tapestries are numerous and beautiful. Among the ivories is a twelfth century figure of Christ, from the Kampe collection, and a most curious head of an angel, in blackened ivory. The ceramic room, filled with rare specimens of local work, gives an excellent idea of the efforts of the forerunners of Bernard Palissy and other masters. The ecclesiastical art section is extremely rich. Reliquaries, tabernacles, chalices, coffers, and triptychs are here in profusion, some sent by cathedral dignitaries, others unearthed from obscure village churches. There are chasubles of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, a dalmatic, said to have been worn by an authentic saint, and the chasubles worn at the coronations of Louis XIII, Louis XIV, Louis XV and Louis XVI.

In the first of the outer row of rooms are the beautiful thirteenth century doors which, after standing for ages under the great staircase of the cathedral at Le Puy, have actually been taken down and brought here. The fifteenth century room contains some curious chairs, chests and statuettes; the sixteenth century room, Antoine de Lorraine's bed, a beautiful painted and gilded cabinet, a large Burgundian chest supported by griffins with human heads, two ebony cabinets from Fontainebleau, fragments of frescoes, arched butts, carved nut-crackers, etc. The rooms devoted to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries are rich in master-

pieces, among which may be cited the silver-gilt toilet service made for the Grand Dauphin, a splendidly worked soup tureen in solid silver, Savonnerie carpets, a marble chimney-piece from an old mansion, a Watteau panel, delicious Louis XV tables and chairs, Marie Antoinette's richly ornamented jewel-cabinet, snuff-boxes, table-ware etc., all carefully selected and well arranged.

5th May.

VIII.

THE FINE-ART SECTIONS.

The Centennial collection is a sort of corollary to the splendid display at the 1889 Exhibition. It is not absolutely representative of French art for the past hundred years, for the simple reason that not a single one of the works exhibited in 1889 is to be found in it. This omission is, of course, voluntary. Even if it had been possible to bring together the counterpart of the 1889 display, the result would have been wanting in originality, and the 1900 selection would have been treated as a pale copy of its predecessor. The organisers of the Centennial collection, therefore, included only such works as were not shown at the last Exposition Universelle. The great bulk of the collection consists of works by men who are nearly, but not quite, great, and are comparatively unknown to those who have not made a special study of French art. The great value of the Centennial is, in fact, that it brings many hidden measures into the light of day, and gives the visitor an unique opportunity of extending his knowledge of the subject. The collection is a remarkable proof of the richness and vitality of French art.

THE GREAT PAINTERS.

To begin with the great painters, David is represented by a wonderful portrait of Mme. Vigée-Lebrun—far more lifelike than the well-known representation of the same lady in the Louvre—and several other fine portraits, a sketch of Napoleon in his coronation robes, and a very tragical "Ugolino." There is a very good collection of paintings by Ingres. First of all is his celebrated "Vow of Louis XIII," a masterly but somewhat cold historical revival. The faces of the Court ladies might have been painted by an artist of their own time. "The Dauphin, afterwards Charles V, entering Paris" is another important picture of the same kind. Hard by, are some of the finest specimens of Ingres' portraits, such as "Madame de Senones" (from the Nantes museum), "Madame de Broglie" and "Madame de Paucoucke," and a woman's head, painted by Ingres on a studio wall and cut out by one of his admirers, just as the Laird endeavoured to do with Little Billee's sketch of Tribby's foot. There are eight pictures by Delacroix, and at least two of them are worthy to rank among his best. The "St. Sebastian" is intensely tragic, and "Greece expiring on the ruins of Missolonghi" is full of the poetry of melaucholy. There are four Greuzes, including an almost unknown "Egina and Jupiter," discovered in a small private collection.

COROT AND OTHERS.

Corot has a room to himself, and his admirers will revel in what they find here. His "View of Chartres" and "View of Volterra" are specimens of his best style in landscape. His "Lady in Blue," "Peasant woman," "Hagar," and "Homer and the Shepherds" are figures with a breadth of treatment of which Corot is not always admitted to be capable. A landscape by Charles Le Roux, with figures by Corot, should not be overlooked. Millet, like Corot, is represented here rather by figures than by

landscapes, but Rousseau has two delicious bits of scenery, including a "View of Fribourg." Of Jules Dupré, the best example is a "Ford." Paul Delaroche is represented by a large "Portrait of M. de Pastoret," and Horace Vernet by a "Head of Charles V." Courbet has a curiously tinted "Wheat Sifters" (from the Nantes museum), and the still better known "Bonjour, Monsieur Courbet!", from Montpellier. Daumier, whose pictures are now much sought after, is well represented by his "Revolt," "Blanchisseuse," "Fugitives," and several other canvases. Dijon has temporarily given up Legros' celebrated "Ex voto." Of Manet we have the "Picnic," "Bar at the Folies-Bergères," "Portrait of Eva Gonzalez," and a wonderful dead game piece. Rosa Bonheur has only one example, "Hay."

THEIR RIVALS.

All these great painters have a good, but not excessive, share of space. Their rivals, or those artists who were considered as such, are admitted with complete impartiality. Cabanel is here with a striking figure, "Albaydi;" Elle Delannay, with a fine "Portrait of Gounod;" Carolus Duran with a beautifully drawn figure of a sleeping man, Henner with a masterly "Portrait of a Priest;" Baudry, Bonnat, Yvon, Chaplin, and many others too numerous to mention. The same spirit of eclecticism has guided the selection of the impressionist's works, of which there is a roomful. Amongst them may be mentioned Degas' "New Orleans cotton-merchants," Claude Monet's peculiar study of smoke effects in a Paris railway station, "Break-up of the ice," and "Etréat;" Renoir's graceful female forms, and some characteristic works by Seizanne, Pissarro, Charles Maurin, Raffaelli, Sisley, Mme. Morizot, and others. The octagonal room connecting the Centennial with the Decennial section is very interesting, containing as it does a bouquet of flowers culled from all the gardens of French art. Here are Dehondy's "Jewish Wedding," Carolus Duran's early work "The Murder," Fantin-Latour's "D. family" and "Brodeuse," Cazin's "Judith," Manet's "Picnic," Jean Paul Laurens' "Funeral of Marceau," Besnard's "Portrait of Mme R.J.," Renoir's "Little Dancer," Claude Monet's "Pines at Antibes," and Carrière's "Maternity."

There are four Meissonniers, including "The Curd's Wine," two of Alfred de Neuville's battle-pieces, and examples of Benjamin-Constant, Detaille, Puvion de Chavannes, Tony Robert, Henry, Detaille, J. Lefebvre, Bonnat, and even Willette.

The sculpture section of the Centennial exhibition is on a considerably smaller scale than the collection of paintings, the idea being to do no more than illustrate the development of French sculpture in the nineteenth century. In the nave are a statue of Cuvier and busts of Paganini and Grouchy by David d'Angers, Barye's splendid lion from the Tuileries, "Jeanne d'Arc" by Rude, and examples of Carpeaux, Castellin, Duret Rodin, Barrias and others. The gallery at the foot of the right-hand staircase contains works dating from before 1850, and others of later date are to be found on the left.

As for the Decennial Exhibition, one could wish that there were a little less of it. The French pictures are some sixteen hundred in number and occupy thirty-six rooms, some of them very large. These pictures are practically a selection from the Salons of the last ten years, but the selection has been made with too liberal a hand. It was quite unnecessary to hang four or five examples of a perfectly well-known style. Neither was it good taste to give nearly all the space to French artists and leave many of the invited guests from other countries out in the cold. The French have not even made any attempt worth

mentioning to produce new works in honour of the occasion. Among the few exceptions must be noted M. Benjamin-Constant's portrait of Queen Victoria. Our sovereign is represented seated in an antique chair, the sunlight streaming through a window on to her venerable features. The portrait is marked by simplicity and dignity, and is a work of real historical value. M. Chartran's portrait of Pope Leo XIII, on the other hand, exaggerates the Pontiff's strongly marked features with almost caricatural effect. Other new works include a beautiful "Nymphs" by Henner, a "Madonna of the Woods" by Dagnan-Bouveret, some landscapes by Pointelin, a fine cartoon by J. P. Laurens, and the inevitable Bouguereau angel.

The sculpture comprises a monument to Victor Hugo by Barrias, the poet being represented as a young man seated on a rock in a reflective attitude; Falguieres' last work "Cain and Abel," Bartholomé's "Monument to the Dead," and works by Boucher, Dalon, Guillaume, etc. Rodin's works are not here but in a separate exhibition in the Place de l'Alma, organised by the artist himself.

The foreign exhibits must be reserved for a separate notice.

11th May.

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THE NINETEENTH CENTURY:

A RETROSPECT.

V.

MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE MADE THE CENTURY.

BY

JUSTIN MCCARTHY, M.P.

(Author of "A History of Our Own Times," &c.)

THE "GOOD EARL."

The Earl of Shaftesbury, known during a great part of his life as Lord Ashley, was one of the most active and devoted philanthropists this country has ever known. Born to rank and means which might have secured for him every enjoyment dear to selfishness and left no craving for personal ambition, Lord Ashley made his whole life a life of labour in the cause of those who most needed protection and help. He carried on the crusade against slave trade and slavery in all its branches which had been begun by Clarkson and Wilberforce during the former century and which, as to its main object, had found its triumph in this. But Ashley took up the work of Clarkson and Wilberforce in a new way and carried the work into a new field. He aimed at the abolition of white as well as of black slavery. The manner in which women and children were overtasked in mines and factories filled him with the resolve that, if he could prevent it, no such crimes against humanity and civilisation should be longer endured in these islands. He awakened the public conscience to a knowledge and a feeling of the horrors which were enacted every day in our mines and factories,—horrors to which most of the observers who knew anything about them had grown too familiarised to wonder at, or to reflect upon, or to get the idea that they called for any remedy. Lord Shaftesbury often had a hard fight for it, for he had to contend against the theory, then becoming very dear even to men of the highest and purest aims, that legislation ought not to interfere between the employer and the employed. The chief reforms in our industrial life to which Lord Shaftesbury devoted himself were carried to triumph while he was yet living and his career established the principle, not likely to be lost sight of again in our legislative system, that the State

has a right of intervention for the purpose of protecting those who have no power of protecting themselves.

FATHER MATHEW.

Theobald Mathew, "Father Mathew," the apostle of temperance as he was called, and is still called, was undoubtedly one of the personalities of the century. He was an Irish priest whose mission was chiefly in the city of Cork, and in the course of his ministrations his attention was naturally directed to the terrible evils which were caused, especially among the poorer classes, by the vice of intemperance. In that fact he found his mission and to that mission he gave up his life. Indeed he may be said to have sacrificed his life to it, for the incessant toil to which he devoted himself proved too much for his health, and as the terrors of failing health could not induce him to rest from his labours he died at what might be called a comparatively early age. He preached temperance, and enrolled converts all over Ireland, England, and Scotland, and indeed throughout the North American colonies and the United States of America. He was not a great preacher, he had not the gift of eloquence, and his only power was in his sweet persuasiveness, his benignant manners, his noble heart, and his absolute devotion to his cause. He founded a whole organisation wherever he went and the fruit of his labours is still evident in Ireland, although more than forty years have passed since his death. The poorer Irish population has never on the whole been a slave to intemperance as it was in the days when he began his work. Thackeray met him in the south of Ireland and was charmed with the simplicity and benignity of his manner. The famous novelist noted with peculiar interest the fact that when Father Mathew dined at some of the great houses he shook hands with the servants, asked them about their families, and without any ostentatious display of humanitarianism and benevolence made them feel that in his mission he recognised no distinction of classes. He worked among members of all creeds and was equally admired and trusted by all. His career was in its way almost absolutely unique in modern days.

RICHARD COBDEN.

Richard Cobden was the apostle of peace and of Free Trade. His name will always be associated with that of the Manchester School, as it was called, but he himself was born among the farming classes of Sussex, and it was only on the breakdown of his father that he became a calico printer. He founded the Anti-Corn Law League, which, as Sir Robert Peel generously proclaimed in the House of Commons, enabled Peel's Government to carry the abolition of the duties on grain. Cobden was not an orator but he was one of the most persuasive and convincing speakers ever heard in the House of Commons. His genius as a reformer was acknowledged as warmly by Disraeli, who opposed him and his measures, as it was by Peel, and those who first supported Peel. He was one of the avowed advocates of the principle of arbitration for the settlement of international disputes, and in pursuit of this purpose he travelled all over Europe, a great part of the East, and the United States. He was welcomed everywhere because of his noble character, his unselfish purpose, and his marvellous power of reasoning and convincing. The recent Peace Proposals of the Czar may be traced almost directly to his initiative, for he had obtained much influence over the mind of the Czar, Nicholas of Russia. It is scarcely necessary to add that Cobden was the author of the Commercial Treaty with France.

JOHN BRIGHT.

John Bright, Cobden's closest friend and ally, was a personality of a somewhat different order. Although the men always worked together, Bright had not so much of

what Mathew Arnold calls "sweet reasonableness" as Cobden. He went at his work of reform with energy and passion. He was a great orator, one of the greatest orators England ever had. No one ever carried more nearly to perfection the simple purity of the English language. He had a voice that was magnificent in its music. He never piled on words, he never shouted or blustered, and he was as much a power in the House of Commons as he was on the popular platform. His voice was always for international peace, for the settlement of disputes by arbitration, and for the poor and oppressed everywhere. He used to be denounced at one time as Anti-English by a certain class of his political opponents, but in truth he was a thorough Englishman and will stand forth in history as, intellectually and morally, one of the noblest types of the Anglo-Saxon race.

WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE.

William Ewart Gladstone was probably, on the whole, the greatest member of the House of Commons since the days of Edmund Burke. But he had immediate opportunities of serving his country which never came within the reach of Burke. Gladstone was one of the greatest Prime Ministers England has ever had. I should be inclined to rank him as an orator higher than Canning, and not inferior to Pitt or Fox. As a financial statesman he followed out the work which Peel had begun and made it his ambition to lighten and ease the burden and to simplify the system of taxation. He combined the work of Peel and of Canning, for in his foreign policy he was an advocate of peace, where peace could be maintained with safety to the Empire, and he was a consistent advocate of the claims of oppressed nationalities. Gladstone straightened out, if I may use such an expression, the English financial system. He gave taxation a principle and converted the imposition of duties on foreign goods from simple prohibition into a mere means of maintaining revenue. With him the great object of government was the prosperity and contentment of the governed. Up to the days of his first administration Ireland had been governed without the slightest regard to the wishes and feelings of the great majority of its inhabitants. Gladstone introduced a new principle into the dealings of the Imperial Parliament with Ireland. He was an ever-watchful student of living history. He was willing to learn something in his earlier days from O'Connell with regard to Ireland, he was willing to learn something in his later days from Parnell. He was often reproached for inconsistency simply because he was willing to admit that he had learned something to-day which he had not known the day before yesterday. His mind was always open to new teachings and to new truths and he absolutely refused to set up the wisdom of our ancestors as an object of stereotyped worship. He was a scholar as well as an orator and a statesman. He studied theology as well as history and literature and art. If he had never been at the head of a Ministry or carried a measure through Parliament or made a great speech in the House of Commons he would still have to be remembered as one of the most accomplished men of his time. Above all things he was a conscientious statesman. He did not believe in imperial greatness which was not founded on moral and religious law. The fame of a Napoleon would not have dazzled him any more than the fame of a Tamerlane. His strongest political opponents would readily admit that the one pervading object of his career was that of the true greatness of his country.

THE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD.

Benjamin Disraeli was one of the most brilliant political figures of the century. He could hardly be called a self-made man in the ordinary acceptance of the term

because he was the son of a distinguished father, and had not to encounter a life of poverty and struggle. But his career was emphatically made by himself and for himself. He had to make his way in politics, and through politics into the leadership of a party and the Prime Ministership of an empire. He copied nothing from anyone, he was original in whatever he did. While he devoted himself to the writing of novels he wrote novels which were a school to themselves. The modern English political novel is altogether his invention, and very few have even tried to imitate it. But his genius led him into Parliamentary life, and it was there that he seemed to find all he wanted. Even there, however, he had a long struggle before any genuine success seemed to dawn upon him. For nearly ten years in the House of Commons his career might have been described as an almost absolute failure. Even his more kindly critics would have probably described him as a gifted eccentricity entirely out of his right place. Disraeli knew himself better than anyone else did. He felt convinced that the House of Commons was his proper place of success, and that if he waited for his time, his time would come. The time did come at last when the fortunes of a great and, for the hour, as he himself put it, "a fallen party," required a new leader with a gift for leadership, and Disraeli proved to be the man. From that hour he became a great parliamentary success. He was the life-long rival of Gladstone, and in the parliamentary battle he often crossed swords with Bright and fairly maintained his place. He did not rank, perhaps, among the greatest of parliamentary orators, but he certainly did rank among the greatest of parliamentary debaters. His command of sarcastic reply was in itself a fine art.

MISS NIGHTINGALE.

Miss Florence Nightingale restored to English women, not associated with religious orders, the place which had been theirs in our mediæval days, the duty of attending to the sick and wounded in war. Florence Nightingale had from her earliest womanhood a calling for the duties of a nurse and she studied in Continental hospitals for years before the opportunity came to prove her fitness for the place she must have felt to be hers. The Crimean War gave her the opportunity, and hers was almost the only civil department that showed itself successful amid the wreck and welter of our arrangements there. Thenceforth she devoted her life to the founding of nursing organisations. She helped to set up the Geneva Cross and she re-opened a great chapter in the history of English women.

LIVINGSTONE.

David Livingstone may to some extent be taken as the type of the modern religious missionary, the missionary that is to say who combines the mission for geographical discovery with that for the conversion of the heathen. Africa, which William Pitt in a passage of glowing eloquence described as destined to be the rising sun of civilisation, was the chosen ground of Livingstone's labours. His name will for ever be associated with geographical discovery in the African continent. Had he never been a religious missionary he would still have been famous and his name would have ranked with the names of Speke and Grant, and Burton, and Samuel Baker. One of the most thrilling episodes of the later century was the sudden disappearance of Livingstone from mortal ken, as it seemed, and his recovery by the skill, energy, and daring of H. M. Stanley, who afterwards became a geographical discoverer on his own account.

SIR HENRY HAVELOCK.

Among the great personalities whom our Indian Empire has lately brought out for us among the Elgins, and Cannings, and

Lawrences, Outrams, and Clydes, we must give a conspicuous place to the figure of Sir Henry Havelock. Havelock was in the truest sense of the word a Christian soldier. There was absolutely nothing in him of that spirit which a great modern poet has condemned as the inspiration of conquest, the passion of the warrior to become great by the war. Havelock thought only of serving his country and his kind. Seldom in the history of modern warfare, with its organised masses and its scientific armament, has it been given to any one man to effect so sudden a change in the condition of a great struggle as the genius and daring of Havelock enabled him to accomplish at the worst crisis of the rebellion in India. He was almost as fortunate in his death as Lord Nelson, for he died only a little after the accomplishment of his victory.

GENERAL GORDON.

If Dr. Livingstone was missionary and explorer, General Gordon might be called saint and soldier. The career of this extraordinary man is too familiar to all of us, his heroic death is still an event too fresh in our memory to make any detailed survey of his work necessary for our purpose. Where many another great soldier was inspired by the passion for conquest and fame, Gordon was inspired by a passion for the advancement of humanity. He studied the earth with that object in his mind, and whether in China or in the Soudan or in Ireland, his one thought was to work for the cause of justice and mercy. He was the uncompromising enemy of slavery and he gave up his life in a generous effort to relieve the races of the Soudan from a system of merciless and degrading tyranny. He would have been famous as a soldier if he had been a soldier and nothing more, but he carried the spirit of a Saint Louis, of a Wilberforce, and of a Livingstone into the vast work which he set himself to do and much of which he fully accomplished. No one is ever likely to forget the effect produced on England when the news reached her that the expedition sent out for Gordon's relief had arrived too late at its destination and that the hero had become a martyr. Many writers have recorded the fact that the very appearance of the London streets bore evidence on that day that some terrible news had arrived which suddenly stopped the ordinary movement of the passing crowd and made everyone anxious to share with his neighbour his thoughts on the sad event which had blighted the national hopes.

SIR GEORGE GREY.

Sir George Grey was one of the most striking personalities among the men who have helped to make and mould our colonies. The son of a distinguished soldier he was brought up a soldier himself and saw much service before he became an Australian explorer. In 1841 he was appointed Governor of South Australia, and was afterwards Governor of New Zealand, and of Cape Colony, and afterwards Prime Minister of New Zealand, an almost if not altogether unique position for a man to hold who had been formerly Governor of the Colony. Sir George Grey was a man of extraordinary mental activity and resource and he brought the aid of his varied experiences as soldier and explorer to carry him through the difficult tasks with which he had been entrusted. In every place which he held he had to contend with the most serious troubles, risings of native races, incursions of hostile tribes, the perils of a critical situation, sometimes absolutely new and allowing of no instruction from historical precedent, and sometimes the distrust or the ignorance or lack of spirit of the authorities at home. The part he had to perform was often like that of some old world conqueror who found himself in conditions entirely novel and had nothing

to rely upon but his own genius, daring and readiness in device and expedient. He was however, it must be said, like some conqueror whose main purpose was beneficent and just, and who desired nothing but the improvement and the advance to civilisation of those with whom he had to deal. In more than one instance, when one of his Generals did not see the way to the capture of some difficult position, Sir George settled the difficulty by taking the field and capturing the position himself. He was one of the original promoters of the South African Federation; and his efforts were always directed towards the education of the Australasian Colonies, over which he had control, for the work of self government. There was much in his character and his career which suggested the idea of an Alexander or a Caesar, born too late into the world.

MR. RHODES.

Mr. Cecil J. Rhodes is the newest as he is in this article the latest of the Century's great personalities. Mr. Rhodes has made for himself a name which stands out among the very foremost of his time, and we talk of his plans and projects as we might discuss the movements and the schemes of some king or emperor. Mr. Rhodes has nothing of the missionary in his professions, nor does he indeed make much claim to be regarded as above all things a philanthropist. No one, however, can well doubt that if he could carry his projects through they would tend to the work of civilisation and expand the greatness of empire. He is a conqueror who works by industrial and commercial means, by railways and companies and steamships; and the project for uniting Egypt and Cape Colony by a railway system is only one of the many schemes which he is likely to find the means of carrying into reality. The tendencies of modern civilisation, especially of that form of civilisation which belongs to our own day, may be said to find their most powerful living illustration in the striking figure of Cecil Rhodes.

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CRICKET,

BY

A. C. MACLAREN.

II.

ENGLISH CRICKET.

After the Australians had succeeded in winning the only Test match that was played to a finish last season, many commenced to wonder if English cricket was deteriorating. Had we left off in the position of the Australians we would not have considered ourselves the better side. The first Test match our opponents ought most certainly to have won, but the inability of their batsmen to score at anything approaching a fair rate, on a good wicket when defeat appeared out of the question, was most apparent, and they only had themselves to blame for not beating us on that occasion. The second game was won anyhow, and not by England, owing in a great measure to one of those inexplicable collapses of our early batsmen on a fast good wicket. If the Australians showed superiority in the first two games, they certainly had none the best of the last three, when three days were by no means sufficient to get rid of one of the most defensive lot of batsmen ever sent over from the Colonies. Rain alone robbed us of what looked like a win at Leeds in spite of what some said about the difficulty of a wicket that never played worse than a trifle slow. At the Oval the Australians would not have got the same number of runs as we did on the first day's play had they been given another two hours in which to obtain the runs.

They came over at a time distinctly favourable to their chances, at a time when good judges were undecided as to the advisability of playing giants of old, or allowing younger members to take their places, and when our fast bowlers, with the exception of Richardson, who had lost all form, were, owing to accidents, unable to take their places on the side. Nobody who saw it can forget the excellence of Lockwood's bowling, crippled and bandaged as he was, in the last match at the Oval. I have desired to enter into these details in defence of English cricket, and nothing will convince me the Australians were a better side than we were, although I admit they were our superiors in throwing and bowling, and do not forget that they were robbed of the services of that fine young batsman Clem Hill. Our inability to play Lockwood in the first four, and Young in the last Test match meant a very great deal to us, and I maintain there was no proof of English cricket decaying so far as anything that took place last season is concerned. The one defeat sustained at the hands of the Australians will doubtless do us no harm for maybe we have in the past been inclined to rather underrate our opponents.

BETTER—AND WORSE THAN FORMERLY.

If our England XI is no better to-day than it was twenty years back, we have now ten good cricketers to one in the past, or very nearly so; in the same way there are more coaches at the game, so much being taught now that each player had to find out for himself in days gone by; this I feel sure is a pity, and I should say that if there is one quality our players of to-day possess in a lesser degree to men of the past, it is that of "headwork," which may perhaps be accounted for owing to the great amount of coaching, good, bad or indifferent, that is to be had to-day. It is no exaggeration to say that there are boys at school in their first XI who don't bother about half thinking out their cricket but are quite content to do exactly as they are told and often become most mechanical players. They are to be seen in almost every school XI to-day, and when their days of coaching are over they either have not the ability or won't be troubled to find out things for themselves. In the old days I should say a mechanical batsman was seldom if ever seen; there were not the professionals there are now and consequently one had to do a bit of bowling at practice before one got an innings; now all that is changed, for there are to-day as many as twenty professionals engaged on some county grounds and an amateur is not often seen having a bowl; consequently our amateur bowlers, at least the first-class ones, can be counted on one hand. In the club matches that take place in the north, the bowling is almost entirely professional, which seems a great pity. Not so long ago batsmen had to have their eyes open for shooters, and although round arm bowling was once only allowed I expect more balls flew over the batsmen's head then than now; thus it was a good man who got a century in those times, nerve, quickness of eye and hand being essential to success; and the sleepy lackadaisical bat of to-day that one very occasionally sees batting on a billiard table wicket, would have been all abroad under the former conditions, since the wickets were not then nearly so good as those of to-day.

CHANGES IN PLAY.

The game has undergone many changes in the last twenty years, the interchange of visits between England and Australia having a lot to answer for, almost each visit being productive of a new stroke or some change in the placing of one's fieldsmen. When we first sent a team to Australia our opponents were little better than what is termed country cricketers, or rustic bats. In other words they were natural free hitters trusting more to the strength

of their arm than to the timing of the stroke, but their eyes were always very wide open, and they have long ago acquired the polish that was formerly so conspicuous by its absence. We too have learnt something from them in the art of placing one's fields, and they were the first to adopt positions under the batsman's nose which appeared more than dangerous but obtained for them many a wicket. Other teams have come and gone but the learning of anything has always been on one side. Not so long ago all hits were run out which must have affected the older cricketers not a little and been the cause of their downfall on several occasions, for even to-day, with boundaries, a succession of short runs has often been the means of a bowler securing a wicket, frequently getting the batsman caught in the slips owing to being late with his stroke, half winded as he is with these sharp sprints between wickets. Should it be ruled that all hits are to be run out in future, as suggested, there would undoubtedly be fewer runs made, and batsmen would not stay so long at the wickets perhaps, as there is no getting away from the fact that bowlers under the new conditions would gain a slight advantage. As far as I can judge, from my own point of view, I should probably be more exhausted after making 50, and running all hits out, than after making a century with boundaries on such a ground as Lord's, Brighton or Taunton, when the ball travels very fast to a not very far distant boundary; but, on the other hand, when obliged to run all hits out, I should take very much longer intervals to regain my wind, and after a fourer would leave several off balls alone to give me time to get my wind thoroughly; thus a great deal more time would be wasted than is now the case so far as my batting would be concerned.

ENGLISH BOWLING AND BATTING.

The present day boundaries are a disadvantage to our bowlers of the present time, a disadvantage under which bowlers of the past did not labour. If we could only see these great bowlers of the past, with 30 years knocked off their lives, appear on our best grounds in a run-getting season, how would they fare! Successful they might be, but I feel pretty confident that with so many more good batsmen to defeat, with so many more billiard tables upon which to bowl, with perhaps four times the number of matches to play in a season, and with boundaries to assist the stout and old wielders of the willow, they would meet with nothing like the same success as was theirs in their day. On the other hand what would Richardson, Lockwood, Jack Hearne, Mead, Peel, Briggs, Attewell, Lohmann and Mold have done thirty years ago?—although I must not overlook the fact that over-hand bowling, that is to say a delivery higher than the shoulder, was not allowed then; but does not that very law then in force tell us very plainly that over hand bowling was too dangerous, owing to the imperfectness of the wickets, and in those days there was never any talk of the bat having a mastery over the ball. When comparing our bowlers of to-day with those of the past, let us take all those fresh difficulties which our bowlers have to meet season after season, into serious consideration. It may interest some to know that on my once asking a well-known old cricketer if our cricket was better to-day, he replied—"most decidedly, yes." Averages too, so far as batsmen are concerned, must be far more fallacious than used to be the case, for some have the advantage of playing on much truer wickets with easier boundaries than have others. For instance, when, not so long ago, drawn games were the order of the day on so many of our grounds, they nevertheless were played out at Lord's owing no doubt to the fact that the ground was scarcely ever watered, and in consequence had a deal of life in it. The

ground used to be rolled first thing in the morning when the dew was on the grass, and I was assured that was all the water the wickets ever saw. What would Stoddard, who was at his best at the time of which I am writing, have done on such wickets as are found at Southampton, Trent Bridge, Taunton, the Oval, or Old Trafford at its best? I do not, however, mean that Lord's never produced a good run-getting wicket, but they were uncertain pitches, to say the least. I have known a Lord's wicket play shockingly the first day, and yet be a well-nigh perfect pitch after first day's play. If some of the very few who had a better average than Stoddard that season were made to play half their matches at Lord's, it would be interesting to see how their averages would work out. In the same way, if Yorkshire could exchange cricket grounds with Surrey for a season, averages would work out more than a little differently.

I often wonder if Tyler has ever been heard to bless the dimensions of the Taunton ground, the river at one end and the churchyard at the other being exact spots on which he would place his outfield if boundary rails went that far back: if he had a bigger ground on which to bowl, such as the Adelaide Oval, his analysis would read a lot better. It seems strange that there are no written laws in regard to length and breadth of our cricket grounds: it would be a great deal more satisfactory if all had more or less the same dimensions. Averages and bowling analyses might then work out truer. The various sizes of our grounds have a marked effect on our batsmen, who know to a yard how far they can hit the ball. If it is a short boundary, men who are not by any means considered hitters, but nevertheless can use their heads and make use of opportunities, continually hit the bowler over the rails; if on the other hand it is a very long hit, as at the far end of Kennington Oval, then a hitter will often content himself with playing quietly when he sees the outfield is deep enough to cover his biggest hit. Too big a boundary is undoubtedly often the cause of very little big hitting, which thus robs the game of its bright feature. Personally I should always prefer to see a match played on a ground a trifle too small than on one too big.

THE SCANDAL IN THE FAR EAST

Some two hundred thousand men are fighting in South Africa to uphold the honour of the Union Jack, but it is time attention were given to another quarter of the globe, where our flag is constantly outraged with impunity. The scandalous state of affairs in Chinese waters is one that no self-respecting Government should suffer for a week. If public attention were not riveted in another direction it would have been fastened long before now, and with greater indignation, upon the abominable outrages perpetrated on vessels flying the red ensign between the second port of the British Empire—Hongkong—and Canton, the southern capital and greatest trading centre in China. In spite of the definite promises of the Government a year ago, that properly equipped and suitable vessels should be sent out to protect our trade on the rivers and inland waters of China, the opening of which to British trade was the one substantial gain falling to this country from the events of 1898 and 1899 in the moribund Empire, it is a disagreeable fact that British trade on the Canton and West Rivers has recently been brought almost to a standstill by pirates and long-shore banditti who infest the trade routes; while the much-vaunted concessions on the Yangtze have proved a myth—as, indeed, has our pos-

session of a sphere of interest in that region at all. During the year 1897-1898 about eighty cases of piracy in the Canton and West Rivers were reported, and during the last two years the pirates have been equally busy in that neighbourhood. A recent case may be quoted as an example of the state of affairs. In January of this year the small British river steamer Lily left Canton for Whampoa with between fifty and sixty passengers. She reached Whampoa safely, and some twenty passengers went ashore. She then resumed her voyage, but when passing the village of Santsing a score or so of the remaining passengers showed their true colours, drove the captain and crew below, and proceeded to plunder the vessel at leisure. The little steamer was then headed for Shik-tan, where some piratical small craft were met, and a supply of ammunition, provisions, and a reinforcement of twenty men were obtained. The plundered passengers and crew were then sent away, and the Lily was utilised for a piratical cruise! A native trader was met, and relieved of her cargo of coals—and the arms she carried to protect it! Next morning off Heungshan the Lily fell in with the Shek-ki, native tender, in tow by the small steamer Kuang Geung. The pirates attacked the steamer by ramming, but the Lily came off second best as the newcomer was of unusual strength. They took her, however, by boarding, and plundered both the vessel and passengers. Then, abandoning the badly injured Lily, the pirates transferred themselves, their armaments, provisions, and plunder to the new vessel. This was the s.s. Kuang-ki. Later in the day when the pirates had entirely vanished, the usual belated gunboat (Chinese) put in an appearance, and actually towed the Lily back to Canton. The latest exploit of these gentry is the firing on the steam cutter and boats of H.M.S. Tweed. On March 31 last the Hongkong correspondent of the "Daily Mail" telegraphed that the little Sandpiper had run ashore at Samsuia, about twenty-five miles from Canton, and was reported to be badly damaged, adding "as she cannot be everywhere at once piracy goes on flourishing." The "Daily Mail" correspondent also states that the West River pirates had several armed vessels and were practically masters of the river. This state of things will continue if the Foreign Office remains so delightfully confident that four "toy" gunboats can efficiently patrol some four thousand miles of river-way. From twelve to eighteen British bluejackets comprise the crew of each of these tiny vessels, and all four carry but two six-pounder pop-guns. They are much smaller than a London "penny-steamer" and probably not so useful. Two of them steam only nine knots, but the other two have rather more powerful engines, and steam between twelve and twelve and a half knots, but as they are used for the Upper Yangtze, where the rapids run thirteen, their progress up that river is crab-fashion! Now, a British River Squadron (mightily as it sounds), which possesses about sixty seamen and petty officers and four six-pounders, would be annihilated if attacked in detail on a dark night and in an awkward place by the heavy piratical craft with which the writer is well acquainted. This is how the position would work out. Let us suppose the scene to be that nest of pirates, smugglers, and rebels—the "East Coast." The night is pitch-dark, a strong head tide is running, and thereby reduces the speed of H.M.S. Sandpiper to about 4½ knots. The dangers of the navigation are not very well-known to the lieutenant in command who is searching for pirates, and has a cruising ground of about 1,000 miles. Suddenly out of the darkness, sweeping silently and rapidly down with the tide, loom two great vessels, looking like native traders well armed to protect their cargo and passengers. These solid teak-hull craft, of at

least 7,500 piculs (about 450 tons), suddenly fall foul of the little gunboat, and a volley of "stinkpots" clears the way for a crowd of boarders. The poor little Sandpiper is a mere eggshell of a craft, being of the tissue-paper order of naval architecture of which our destroyers are beautiful specimens. She would have no possibility of resistance, for the mere weight of the boarders would almost sink her, and if it came to a broadside at close quarters she would receive the contents of some ten smooth-bore 16 or 20-pounders and a 24-pounder amidships, crammed to the muzzle with round, mixed, and bar shot. The little Sandpiper would cease to exist! If it were broad daylight and a mile between the combatants, there would be a different story to tell, but Chinese pirates, like our Brother Boers, do not give points when they fight. When these pests operate in shallow waters and narrow rivers they keep far too sharp a look out to be approached by any "smoky little gunboat." Worse still, the local officials are frequently in league with them. The "Compradores," where the gunboats obtain their fresh supplies, probably employ men who are hand-in-glove with the pirates, and the very interpreters, clerks, and servants of the British authorities, the poor relations and candidates for office round the great Chinese officials, are often in the swim. Perhaps the Foreign Office innocently imagines that this is only a question of some two or three hundred desperadoes to be captured by a British admiral supported by H.E. the Viceroy of Canton!

This Viceroy, the notorious Li Hung-chang, is the last person to wish well or do well to British trade unless in some particular case it suits his own purpose. He is certainly our greatest enemy in the Far East and has been bought body and soul by enormous sums paid him by Russia. The brilliant result of our traditional Foreign Office diplomacy in China is the appointment of this man as Viceroy of the Two-Kuang! When our trade was paralysed in this region by piracy and lawlessness, instead of our Admiral having instructions to put this down with a strong hand, as Palmerston or Beaconsfield would have done, Mr. Bax Ironside actually asked the assistance of the Germans to support his remonstrance at Peking! Never before was such fatal ignorance of Chinese official nature displayed by European statesmanship—and that is saying a good deal. Nominally, on account of Li Hung-chang's knowledge of foreign affairs, but in reality to seize such an opportunity of placing a bitter enemy in the best position to injure our interests, those tools of Russia—the ex-concubine of the deceased Tung Chi, the so-called Empress Dowager, and her confederate and right hand in foreign affairs, seized the opening our diplomacy placed in their way. Viceroy "Log," who would have let us take our own course, was superseded by Viceroy "Stork," who will do his best (secretly of course) to destroy both our trade and influence.

The seriousness of the situation lies in the fact that the outrages on British vessels are but the straws that show which way the wind blows. They are prompted by men who can make both the so-called Empress-Regent and Viceroy Li dance to their tune. Why was the young boy appointed the other day to succeed the deposed Emperor, selected as the future occupant of the Dragon Throne? Because the Prince, his father is at the head of the great secret society of "The Long Knives and Boxers." The aims of this society are to drive out or massacre all "foreign devils," and in their opinion the safest to begin with are the British, who are no longer considered capable of using suitable force to defend their rights. The result is the murder of British officials and missionaries during the last twelve months. The case reported from Tientsin last

January may be taken as an example. While entering the city of Fochung, the Rev. Mr. Brooks was seized by the Long Knives and Boxers, who sliced off his nose and ears, and would have put him to death by the most horrible tortures had he not been mortally wounded while making a most determined attempt to escape. In the South there is another great secret society called the Triads. They fought our troops at Kowloon last year, and compelled the villagers to resist us. These societies and the Black Flags are staunch allies of every pirate and smuggler on the coast, who are their most efficient tools when the time for action comes. Perhaps the reader may now grasp the importance of the local conditions, which at present merely assume the shape of hindrances to British trade and outrages on British traders, but which may result before long in far more serious action. From such beginnings, and from the same clans in the Canton district, sprang the "Great Taiping Movement" of nearly half a century ago, which bathed the country in blood.

If the British Foreign Office were far-seeing (save the mark!) it would utilise these murders of British subjects in the North, and these piratical attacks, sometimes murderous, sometimes merely destructive of trade and property, as a *raison d'être* for putting ourselves in a position to really protect and increase our trade in China. The débacle is fast approaching, and as soon as Russia has finished her railway, virtually connecting Petersburg with Peking, she will throw off the mask and show her teeth.

Meanwhile our Foreign Office is asleep—worse still, hiding its head under the bedclothes—in China. Why have we not a score of Chinese regiments of marines led and trained by British officers? Why have we not a really powerful light draught squadron capable of maintaining our position on these shallow waters? The upper part of the Yangtze allows of only a 3 ft. draught, the Canton river 6 ft., and Tientsin (from which we controlled Peking and dominated China in Lord Palmerston's time) allows a draught of 11 ft. These are special requirements needing vessels specially built. Let us build them. They can be put together cheaply and quickly in our private shipbuilding yards. But no flotilla can act without men to land. Let us raise them. Twenty Chinese regiments would cost only the same money as three British ones. These men would fight to the death, led by British officers, and if a tiny sum were promised to be paid to a man's parents or wife in case he gets killed in action. Weihaiwei and Kowloon have virtually no garrisons—Hongkong has far too weak a one, and with our difficulty in South Africa we have at present no men available to protect distant treaty ports if attacked. All these conditions point to a British Cabinet receiving another "shock" when the day, now fast approaching, arrives on which we shall either have to set our Chinese house in order at the point of the bayonet or put up a "notice, to let."

The splendid results that can be effected by a number of powerful and suitably-built gunboats in China, and our folly in not profiting by the experience of one of our greatest generals is shown from the following extract from a letter of "Chinese Gordon":

"With three small gunboats—the largest being only about 80 ft. by 27—we fought and won battles in the open country with land forces; defeated the rebel army, pursuing it for miles along canals inland, killing and wounding some 3,000 men; captured towns, towed troops in barges into them, battered down stone walls, stormed forts, took and held bridges, butted and broke booms, rammed bridges of boats, forced passages through mudbanks, went on their paddle-wheels over shallows like gigantic crabs, fought desperate actions

with rebel sailing junks and with solid teak vessels with 18, 24, and even 32-pounder guns!"

These stoutly built little vessels carried ten 32-pounders and a 12-pounder, or howitzer, and were armoured with solid logs of teak! But rough and ready as they were, they did things with their "smooth bores," and trained Chinese troops led by British officers, that a dozen little cockleshells like the Sandpiper would not dream of attempting. However, we have abandoned our paramount position in China to Russia, and therefore, perhaps, we may continue to twiddle our fingers, while Russian sea-going gunboats (so-called) of about 1,500 tons, high speed, and draught of only 11 ft., with 8-inch quick-firers and armoured sides—the modern outcome of Gordon's primitive ideas—go to patrol the waters of their Chinese Empire. But when the man in the street discovers this, and wants to know why his bare forty millions of annual trade is not 200 millions, there will be a "mauvais quart d'heure" for the Government.—"Sunday Special."

VANISHING LONDON.

London, 6th April, 1900.

Few people, even Londoners—or, perhaps, Londoners less than other people—realise how entirely the character of London is changing. The growth of the metropolis, the pulling down and putting up, the constant improvements of the last few years, are of a kind usually associated with the go-ahead cities of America or South Africa, rather than the most conservative capital in the world, that is just awakening to the advantage of electric light and traction. The Englishman, if he were told, as I was the other day by an American fresh from a journey through the Western States, that nowhere was there such a fury of building and rebuilding as in London, would probably be as surprised as he is when the foreigner ventures to suggest that the suppression of evidence at the Jameson trial was, after all, not much more creditable than the suppression of evidence at the Dreyfus trial!

But if the Londoner does shut his eyes to the facts before him, there can be no question that, gradually, old landmarks are disappearing and a brand-new town springing up. I say nothing of the Embankment and the changes in the City; they are older than my personal acquaintance with London. I say nothing of the spreading out of the suburbs; it is impossible to keep pace with them. I simply look back to the London I came to sixteen years ago, and compare it with the London of to-day. Then, between Oxford Street and the Strand—as I remember to my cost, for I lived in Bloomsbury—there was but a network of narrow alleys and twisting streets; and Seven Dials, though somewhat reformed since Dickens's description could still be seen in all its labyrinthine glory, or squalor. Now, the two districts are connected by two wide thoroughfares, Shaftesbury Avenue and Charing Cross Road, and, judging from the grime on the houses that line them, the newcomer to London could never imagine both streets had been opened, virtually, but yesterday. I have seen the beginning and completion of a third, Rosebery Avenue, leading through the wilderness to Islington, of a third, a fourth, still further afield. But to give a list of them all would be to fall into cataloguing, and my object is to point out chiefly what is going on in the very heart, the very centre of London.

When I came, almost the only houses of modern flats—the old-fashioned chambers of the Inns of Court and their neighbourhood are a very different matter—were in Victoria Street, that dark, dingy, narrow valley where few men could preserve their

cheerfulness. Now, there are apartment-houses, or mansions, on the Embankment looking out upon the river, everywhere in Mayfair and Belgravia, in the little streets leading from the Strand, in the quiet, dignified squares of Bloomsbury, which, though never of any great architectural distinction, had a certain stateliness, a certain air that these tall, gingerbread, jerry-built barracks are fast destroying. In Kensington, in Chelsea, even in St. John's Wood it is the same story; the big, ugly modern contrivances shoot up of a sudden in the streets that Thackeray and Carlyle knew and loved, and all the old character goes from them for ever. There is no use in protesting. The modern flat is by far too useful and often admirable an invention. Only once was a protest made and heard—when, a few years ago, a private company was asking Parliament for the right to fill its shareholders' pockets by turning the river front, beyond the Houses of Parliament and that beautiful little old corner of Westminster just back of the Abbey and the Dean's Yard, into a checker-board of mansions. But, as a rule, the gain in comfort so outbalances the loss in picturesqueness that opposition would seem as foolish as Ruskin's crusade against the railroad.

But when it comes to really the greatest innovation of all, one cannot look on quite unmoved. One accepts with equanimity the widening of the lower end of Parliament Street, now in progress, for, as it was, the street was too new to have the sanctity of association, and the Houses of Parliament are worthy of the noble approach hitherto denied them. On the Strand, however, one is on holy ground. It may not be as old as Fleet Street or Holborn, it may be without the old City limits, but it is old enough—"the ancient Strand," Mr. Henley calls it—to be one of the best-known streets by name in Europe or America. Whoever has heard of London has heard of the Strand; whoever loves London loves the Strand. In some ways it has changed enormously. The palaces that Pepys passed on his way to Whitehall have gone; there are hardly any buildings left that Dr. Johnson would recognise—only the two churches that stand in the middle of the road and obstruct the traffic. But, in its main characteristics, it remains as it has been during many long generations. It leads to the City—that is, to the busiest, wealthiest, most powerful business quarter there is the world over, and it is still as mean in its proportions as the High Street of a sleepy country town. It is one of the very few direct lines of communication between East London and West, and the route of endless omnibuses. During the day, it is thronged by an army of business men and clerks hurrying to and from work; in the evening, by an army of theatre-goers, and yet it is still so narrow that the best-trained police to be found anywhere cannot prevent a ceaseless succession of blocks. It is shabby beyond words; its shops are shabby, its houses are shabby, its theatres are shabby, the people who crowd it seem shabby in sympathy. It is, in fact, as absurd a street as you could imagine. But then, it is the Strand, and no lover of London would have it otherwise. It is as characteristic in its way as are the Boulevards of Paris or Unter den Linden of Berlin.

And now, the Strand—the ancient Strand—is doomed, though the name no doubt will survive. It has been easy to see that for long the County Council has had the evil municipal eye upon it. The slightest chance or excuse to widen it has been greedily seized. Already before the Hotel Cecil and at the corner of Wellington Street, where there is such a mass of cabs and carts and buses going to and coming from Waterloo Bridge, the old line of

frontage has been abandoned, and the space saved thrown into the roadway. But, to-day, whoever walks on eastward will see that all along the northern side of the street there is a wall of scaffolding, behind which houses, one after the other, are tumbling. From the Gaiety Theatre to the Law Courts, from St. Mary-le-Strand to St. Clement Dane's, the work is busily being pushed that will transform the Strand as one knows it into a street as like the streets of any other big town as possible. For a time there was talk even of Wren's churches going. But the County Council, to give it its due, is not a bigger vandal than it can help. Has it not just taken over as a public monument the old house in Fleet Street that passes without any reason for the "Palace of Henry VIII. and Cardinal Wolsey," and really does date back to the reign of James I.? And so, fortunately, it has been decided to spare the churches; they can be used as safety islands to divide the two streams of traffic; and they will leave to the Strand what little distinction it can hereafter boast. But think what is to go. In the first place, the character of the street, which counts for so much nowadays when Budapest is but an eastern Chicago on the Danube, and Rome but a southern Paris in the Campagna. Already, Mr. Nutt, whose shop was a rendezvous for scholars of all nations, has flown to Long Acre. Behind the scaffolding is Holywell Street, the old lair of the seedy, whiskey-drinking, always-in-debt, now out-of-date journalist, the haunt of the book-collector and lover, where rare bargains have been picked up—among others, bound with an insignificant tract, that little Elzevir cook-book said to have sold once for £600 at a sale—Holywell Street of unsavory reputation, but picturesque, with its gables and overhanging stories, one of the few genuine bits of old London. And Holywell Street is not to be merely rebuilt; it is to be destroyed. And so is gabled Wych Street. And in the course of a few years, with all the haste of County Councillors eager for reform, an irreproachable boulevard from Holborn will just about here meet the lean, lanky Strand, and electric trams—think of electric trams near the Strand!—will whirl away the business men and the clerks and the theatre-goers. And, no doubt, it is a mere question of time before the same transformation will follow in the West Strand, and, from end to end, the "long, lean, lanky street" will have blossomed forth into a handsome wide avenue, the pride of the contractor, but where Dickens and even Mr. Henley would be as complete strangers as Pepps and Dr. Johnson.

I suppose it is as impossible to blame the County Council as it was to find fault with the Roman authorities a few years ago when they pulled down the old houses on the Tiber. The objection in both cases is purely sentimental. But sentiment counts for more and more in these matters, probably because every year now limits the chances for its exercise. I, for one, can look at that wall of scaffolding along the Strand with as little philosophy as at the glare of academical mosaics in the domes of Wren's cathedral or the restorer's neat facade at Peterborough. The work is passing all but unnoticed. A stray paragraph in a newspaper has commented upon it now and then, but London, busy about South Africa, has had no time to heed it. I have therefore come home from a walk through the dishonoured street all the more eager to remind Americans that, if they would see the real Strand, they had best make what haste they can, for its days are numbered.

N. N. in the N.Y. "Nation."

A MARVELLOUS ADVENTURE.

"Sailing Around the World." By Capt. Joshua Slocum. The Century Co.

This is an account of one of the most remarkable and successful nautical enterprises ever attempted, whose claim to pre-eminence resides in the fact that it involved a cruise of 46,000 miles on all of the oceans, in a sloop thirty-six feet nine inches in length over all, and of nine tons net burden, sailed by one solitary man. This exploit was accomplished, not in the interests of trade or for the sake of gain, but seemingly from a spirit of adventure and of spontaneous love of the water. That Capt. Slocum was not inspired by sordid impulse was a source of ceaseless wonder at the various ports at which he touched—except at Samoa, the only place that he visited where he never heard allusion made to what "would or would not pay." Many successful conflicts have been waged with the sea in craft of small dimensions—in them explorers and shipwrecked mariners have made long and perilous voyages; but never before has a single man embarked with such calm deliberation in so diminutive a vessel to circumnavigate the globe, and carried the venture to a successful conclusion.

It is not to be expected the average reader, unacquainted with nautical vicissitudes, will be able to gauge in all of its dimensions the extraordinary exploit of Capt. Slocum; but in those who have seen the ocean in all its moods from the decks of sailing craft, or who have passed all their days at the edge of the heaving sea, or who have sailed small boats in dangerous waters at all times and at all seasons, it will arouse sentiments of unqualified admiration and respect for him as a valiant and resourceful man. It is from this point of view that the author's simple and unpretentious narrative of his cruise must be judged. Absence of literary finish and florid word-painting sinks into insignificance compared with the overwhelming impression his story conveys of dominant courage and placid self-reliance.

The rig of a sloop is the most unsuited for navigating the open sea. It is heavy, cumbersome, and dangerous there, even when handled with a crew numerous and able. Yet it was in such a craft, alone and unaided, that Capt. Slocum sailed from Boston to Gibraltar, thence across the South Atlantic to Brazil and the Straits of Magellan, where he changed the rig into that of a yawl—an ideal one for cruising in small vessels. His skill as a skipper of a sloop was all the more remarkable inasmuch as his nautical training had been acquired in square-rigged craft. This emphasises the extraordinary quality of his seamanship. As a navigator, he was no less surprising. Provided with a cheap tin clock in lieu of a chronometer, he was rarely at fault in his longitude. When he expected to make a port, the bowsprit of the *Spray* was pointed directly at its entrance, when it was sighted, even after a forty-day run at sea. Naval officers, with all their scientific training and elaborate navigating tools, cannot always attain to this accuracy.

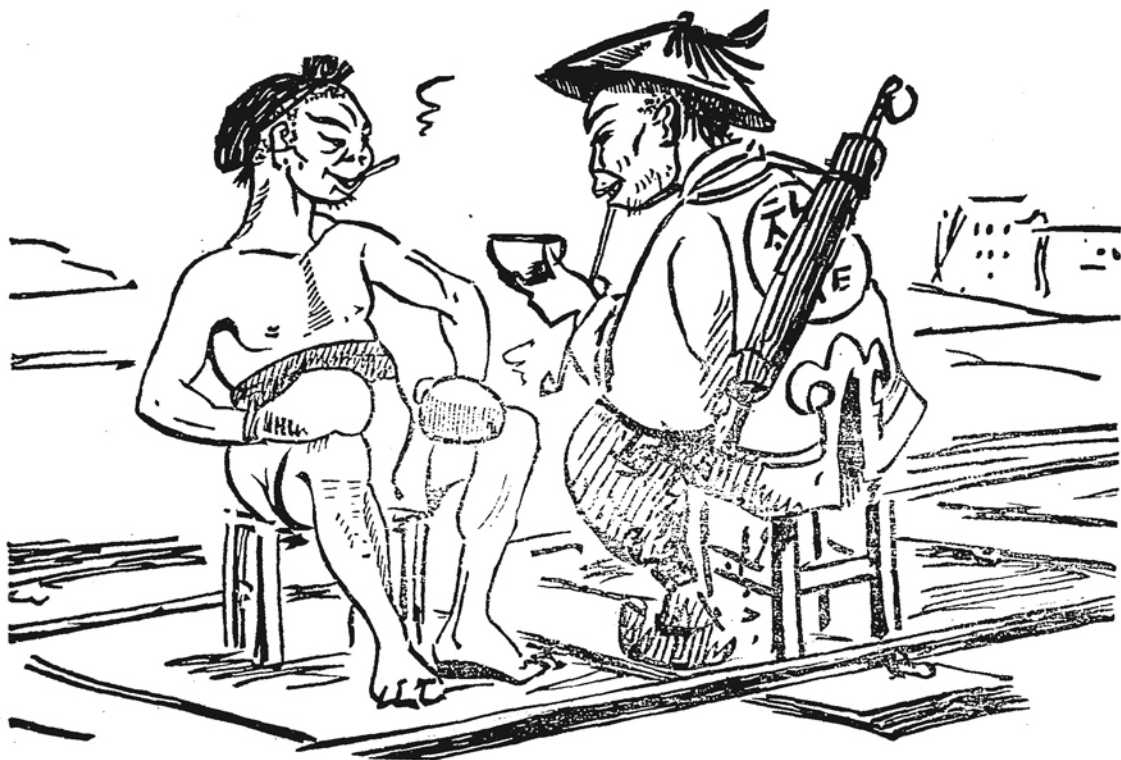
The original of the *Spray* was a fishing boat, supposed to be a hundred years old. When it came into the possession of Capt. Slocum, it was hauled up in a pasture lot in process of decay. Without assistance he rebuilt the craft upon the original lines. That he did the work thoroughly the record of the voyage reveals. Moreover, the sailplan was well balanced; for, with the helm lashed, he sailed long stretches without touching the wheel. When the *Spray* was altered into a yawl, it did still better, for on one occasion it

sailed on one course for twenty-two days, without his being at the wheel for more than an hour and a half during the entire period.

On the 24th of April, 1895, Captain Slocum sailed from Boston, stopping at various coastwise ports until he reached Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, whence, on the 2nd of July, he took his final departure from the American Coast, bound for the Azores, his first port of call, where he arrived on the 20th of July. On the 26th of July, the day after leaving the Azores, occurred the most dramatic incident of the voyage. Some of his friends on shore had presented him with a quantity of plums and a native cheese. He ate freely of both. The amalgam was not a harmonious one, for it brought on a dreadful attack of stomachic cramps. Before the Captain was completely disabled, a blow came on. He should have hove to; instead, he double-reefed the mainsail and, with a full jib, put the *Spray* on her course, lashed the wheel, and went below to roll in agony of pain on the cabin floor. While delirious from the disorder, he imagined that he saw through the companion-way a tall man at the helm, who doffed his hat and said to him, "I am one of Columbus's crew. I am the pilot of the Pinta come to aid you. Lie quiet, Señor Captain, and I will guide your ship to-night. You have a calentura; but you will be all right to-morrow." When the Captain recovered his full senses, it was broad day. The *Spray* still headed true, going like a race horse. The sloop had made ninety miles in the night through a rough sea with no one at the helm—except the supernatural visitor constructed out of equal parts of plums and white cheese.

It is unnecessary to follow further the itinerary of Captain Slocum. The record is there for all to read. The portion that will arouse the greatest interest among deep-water sailor-men is that which tells of the passage of the *Spray* through the Straits of Magellan, the most dangerous stretch of navigable water for sailing-craft known to the world. Its shores are littered with the wrecks of full-powered steamers that have succumbed to its treacherous shoals and currents; yet here was a man who, in a nine-ton sloop, single-handed, conquered, all its dangers—furious "willywaws," squalls that sweep down from the encircling mountains, and threatened attacks of savages, averted only through fearless composure and ceaseless vigilance. After weeks consumed in the first passage through the Straits, when the Pacific Ocean was reached a furious gale drove him southward and thence eastward around Cape Horn. By skilful seamanship he regained the Straits and for a second time made the passage through them. One man without assistance to double Cape Horn in a nine-ton sloop or yawl! The feat is stupendous and unprecedented. The fame of Captain Slocum preceded him. Every lighthouse that he passed on foreign shores greeted him and the *Spray* with salutes by flag, or bell, or gun. With all the attention that was lavished upon him, his sense of humour was not diminished. No man ever took less seriously himself or his exploit. Although a native of Nova Scotia, he was a naturalised citizen of the United States, and always sailed in or commanded American ships. When the proposed Hall of Fame is constructed, a niche should be reserved for Captain Joshua Slocum as the representative of a type of American seaman that in the logic of events is passing out of existence.—The N.Y. "Nation."

THE BOXERS ON THE LINE.



"H.H." quotes from a recent telegram: "The Chinese soldiers are unable to keep the Boxers off the railway line." Could it, he asks, be anything like the above?

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

It will be remembered that when Mr. Shorter gave up the editorship of "The Sketch," because he was not allowed to carry out his wish to raise the tone of the illustrations, he announced a new illustrated weekly to be called "The Sphere." The proprietors of "The Sketch" immediately on their part announced another new illustrated weekly to be called "The Spear." The public, however, which took to "The Sphere" did not show equal favour to "The Spear," and accordingly the following notice appears in "The Sketch" of the 2nd ult.:-

After this week "The Spear" will be incorporated with "The Sketch." There are many reasons why this is advisable. The proprietors have fairly tested the public pulse as to the necessity for an additional high-class weekly paper, and it seems to them that the public are exceedingly well supplied by the older and longer-established illustrated journals. They could if they wished show printers' certificates proving that the number printed of "The Spear" has been unusually large, in some cases exceeding 70,000 copies a week; but the fact is that, with a new journal, the number printed conveys no indication as to the number sold. It is this knowledge, no doubt, that has induced most of the leading advertisers, who are thoroughly alive to their own interests, to support in preference the older-established illustrated journals, whose assured position enables them to regulate their output with greater nicety. In the case of these papers, unsold and gratis copies are, of course, of little use as a medium for advertising. So many of the features of "The Spear" however, have been

so interesting and novel that the incorporation of them in "The Sketch" must add greatly to the brightness and attractiveness, and consequently to the circulation, of the popular journal. Of the features transferred may be mentioned especially the universally admired Rembrandt Supplements, the next of which will shortly be given away with "The Sketch." The date of its publication will be announced in this journal.

ACCORDING to a telegram dated London the 2nd ult., the King of Sweden and Norway is sound on the war in South Africa. It says:-

"I am entirely on the British side in this war in South Africa," said the king of Sweden and Norway, now on a visit to this country, in an interview with a representative of The Associated Press to-day. "You may make it quite clear that I have no sympathy whatever with the Boers, and I will tell you why. I find it difficult to understand either the principles of a religion which is apparently a monopoly of the burghers of the two states, or of the present manifestations of a government which seems to have refused most of the reforms suggested by the British and which closed its negotiations by invading British territory. In my opinion the English-speaking races are the exact opposite of the Boers, because they are among the best colonisers of the world when savage and uncivilised territories have to be reclaimed. No greater proof of this could have been given than the splendid outburst of loyalty at home and the heroism in the field which every British colony has so unanimously displayed. That is the good which has come to Great Britain out of the evil which any war brings in its train, and that will be her compensation for the many disappointments she has suffered hitherto."

THE "N.Y. Maritime Register" says:

The schooner Hattie E. Smith, of 102 tons, which was built at Edgartown, Mass., in 1869 and intended for Arctic cruising, is now at Brooklyn, N.Y., being fitted out for pleasure cruising purposes. She has been purchased by Mr. Kent, a merchant of Hongkong, who intends to take her out there and cruise with her on the China and Japan coasts and through the South Sea Islands. The Smith is a substantial fore-and-aft rigged schooner, and is being fitted up in a comfortable manner under the supervision of Captain D. W. Pratt. The schooner will be under the command of Captain James A. Lord.

THE "N.Y. Maritime Register" has the following account of the new Cunarder:-

The new twin-screw steamship Ivernia, of the Cunard Line, which arrived at New York on the 24th of April from Liverpool, is one of the largest steamers afloat. The dimensions of the Ivernia are: Length, 600 feet; breadth, 64 feet 6 inches; depth to shelter deck, 49 feet 6 inches; gross tonnage, 13,900 tons, and displacement, 25,000 tons. She will have additional strength and safety, due to four complete steel decks—lower, main, upper and shelter—a steel orlop deck extending from the boiler room forward to the stem, and a bridge deck, 280 feet long, above the shelter deck. In regard to passenger accommodation, the vessel will take 150 first-class, 200 second class and 1,000 third class passengers, the last named being largely apportioned into two, four and six berth state-rooms, with all conveniences. The accommodation for first class passengers is situated on the bridge and promenade decks amid-ships. The dining

saloon on the bridge deck is a handsome room, artistically furnished, and will seat 150 persons. The ship is fitted throughout with a powerful installation of electric light.

THE Paris correspondent of the "Economist" writes as follows:—

A writer on finance has endeavoured to calculate the profits made by the agents de change, or privileged brokers, on the Paris bourse, who are 70 in number. The elements taken for his estimate are the produce of the bourse tax in Paris paid by the agents de change, which amounted in 1899 to 4,324,845f. The writer, after first capitalising that sum at the rates of brokerage, and then making deductions for French Rentes, which only pay one-fourth the general rate, and for continuations on which the rate is reduced one-half, estimates that the total brokerages received amounted to 105 millions francs (£4,200,000). He next deducts 14 millions (£560,000) for office and working expenses and contribution to the guarantee fund of the corporation, leaving 89 millions (£3,560,000) to be divided between the 70 offices, or about 1,270,000f, equal to over £50,000, each for the year's profits. The value of the goodwill of an office of agent de change on the Paris bourse is about three million francs (£120,000).

It may be some small comfort to coal consumers to learn that, although their pockets suffer from the high price of fuel, the national interest benefits largely. In all the great colliery districts, pits long disused through the impossibility of working them at a profit are being re-opened, thus practically increasing our available coal reserves. In Yorkshire, several valuable collieries, extending to 120 acres, have thus been dealt with, after being disused for 40 years, and it is estimated that the change from non-productiveness to productiveness will add several million tons per annum to the national supply for the next 20 years. In other cases, working pits are being carried down to deeper seams which it would not have paid to work when coals were at starvation prices. It is, no doubt, very speculative business in both instances; the present scarcity of fuel is consequent on causes which at any moment may cease to operate. Our manufacturing industries are likely to have a bad time, sooner or later, while the exceptional foreign demand for British coals is not likely to last much longer. Nevertheless, it is pleasant to know that this latter drain must be fully supplied by the re-opening of disused collieries, while, after it terminates, a good many of the resuscitated pits will probably struggle on, in the hope of good times coming back. No small amount of capital is required to put a disestablished colliery on its legs again, and those who embark on the risky venture naturally do not care to give it up at the first sign of coming adversity. The available coal resources of the kingdom are, in fact, likely to be augmented for a considerable period.—"Globe."

Inw Reports.

H.B.M.'s. CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, 6th June.
Before F. S. A. BOURNE, Esq.,
Acting Chief Justice.

KOO CHING-TONG v. RUSSELL.

This was a case in which the plaintiff, who had been comradore to the defendant, claimed Tls. 100, wages due from 15th March to 15th April.

The defendant did not appear, but plaintiff handed in an I.O.U. for the amount claimed.

Mr. Macdonald, Usher of the Court, proved the service of the summons.

Judgment was given for the plaintiff, with costs.

8th June.

KINGMAN v. SINCLAIR.

This was a claim by C. Kingman against R. Sinclair for \$50, cost of making one vulcanite plate of nine teeth, and also extracting one tooth. Both parties appeared.

The defendant admitted the debt, and said he ordered the plate at a time when he was in a position to pay. At present, however, he was out of employment, and had not the money to settle the account. He had told Mr. Kingman that he would pay him when he had the money.

His Honour agreed as to the reasonableness of this, and advised Mr. Kingman to give the defendant opportunity to get the money and pay him.

In the meantime, he gave judgment for the plaintiff with costs.

SHANGHAI GAS CO. v. EVANS.

This was a claim by the Shanghai Gas Co. against A. R. Evans for \$96.09.

The defendant did not appear and evidence having been given as to the service of the summons, judgment was given for the plaintiffs with costs.

H.B.M.'s POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 7th June.

Before F. H. BURROWS, Esq.,
Police Magistrate.

HEURA SINGH v. NUND SINGH
AND OTHERS.

Heura Singh, a Sikh policeman, summoned three Sikh watchmen, named Nund Singh, Sobah Singh and Rutta Singh, on a charge of having assaulted him, by beating him with sticks, on the night of the 1st instant.

Plaintiff, whose head was bandaged and who had one eye much discoloured, stated that on the night in question he went to a shop in Frenchtown to pay a bill. When he entered the shop the three defendants were there, also P.C. 128. Nund Singh called out that plaintiff had come, and he (plaintiff) left the shop. The three followed him and Nund Singh struck him on the head with a stick, the other two also beat him on the head with their sticks, knocking him down. Two Sikh P.C.'s, not in uniform told them to stop beating him and they ran off. He then reported the matter at the Central Police Station. Questioned by His Worship as to motive for the attack, he said that during the Races he met Nund Singh at the Racecourse. He offered complainant a drink from a bottle and he refused it, swearing at defendant who reported him for swearing.

Sergt. Aiers, of Sinza Station, said that on one of the Race days Nund Singh came to report complainant for swearing at him. Witness would not take the report as the defendant was drunk.

Complainant said he knew that some men had had trouble with Sobah, but they were not relatives of his. He had nothing to do with getting Sobah dismissed from the police.

Sikh p.c. 128 gave evidence corroborating the plaintiff's story and said he did not interfere as the row was in Frenchtown.

Sikh p.c. 158 gave similar evidence and said that he would have been assaulted if he had interfered to protect Heura Singh.

Nund Singh, in his defence, said he was a watchman at the Racecourse and on the night of the alleged assault he was at the Racecourse all the time. Two other men were with him, but they would not come as witnesses and he asked for subpoenas for them. The plaintiff in Hongkong was squeezing 60 cents a day for four years and was discharged there for bribery. Plaintiff had assaulted some-

one previously and he (defendant) had acted as interpreter, for which plaintiff had now brought this charge. Defendant had been dismissed from the police two years before for disobeying orders.

A Sikh servant from the Hotel des Colonies spoke as to a drunken row amongst the men, but he did not see the assault.

Several other Sikhs gave varying accounts of the dispute and the other defendants denied the assault.

His Worship said it was perfectly clear that there had been a drunken disturbance and he thought it arose out of trouble which had been going on ever since the 20th of January, 1898—a case of robbery and assault—and these evil results had arisen out of that charge. The police evidence made it clear that Sobah Singh and Rutta Singh were engaged in the assault and they would be fined \$10, in default one week in prison. Nund Singh, having pleaded an alibi, would be given an opportunity to subpoena his witnesses, when his case would be dealt with.

8th June.

Nund Singh, a Sikh watchman from the Rice Course, was charged on remand with having beaten Heura Singh, a policeman, in French town, on the 1st instant.

Sergeant Aiers of Sinza attested for the police authorities.

Wong Ah-fong, shroff of the shop where the trouble occurred, said, that he saw Nund Singh present on the occasion, but he saw no assault.

For the defence,

Kishin Singh, employed at a match factory, said that on the night of the 1st instant he, with Weer Singh, walked to the Race Course where they met Nund Singh and remained talking with him till 11 o'clock. Witness had not been asked to give evidence on the previous day.

Weer Singh, a factory watchman gave similar evidence to that of the last witness.

For the prosecution, Barrah Singh, a watchman from the Recreation Ground, was called and stated that he saw the defendant at 8.30 on the night of the 1st instant in Foochow Road.

Defendant said he was on duty that night from 4 to 9 p.m.

His Worship said the evidence that he had heard that defendant was engaged in the fracas was stronger than that as to an alibi, and he would leave it to the authorities to consider whether there should not be a prosecution for perjury. Defendant would be fined \$20, in default two weeks' imprisonment.

R. v. RUSSELL.

H. C. Russell was called upon to answer a charge of having assaulted a Chinese comradore, named Koo Ching-tong, within the British Consulate this morning.

Mr. G. J. T. Newman, Assistant Clerk, H. B. M.'s Supreme Court, stated that as he was entering Mr. Macdonald's office he heard a scuffle and when he turned round he saw the accused hit the complainant in the right eye. The complainant then rushed into Mr. Macdonald's office and defendant followed. He (witness) caught the defendant by the left arm and prevented him from following the complainant.

The defendant had no questions to ask, and his Worship said that he would not go any further into the case but would issue a summons for the defendant to appear at the Court at 10 o'clock to-morrow (Saturday).

9th June.

This was an assault case remanded from the previous day, when the prisoner, Henry Charles Russell, was alleged to have assaulted Koo Ching-tong by striking him.

Koo Ching-tong deposed that he had been comradore to prisoner and had sued him for Tls. 100, wages, and recovered judgment against him in the Civil Court.

Yesterday about 2 p.m. witness was at the Supreme Court door, when he saw Russell, who said he wished to speak to him. Russell then lifted up his fist and struck witness on the left eye. His spectacles were smashed by the blow. After the assault one of the Court officers sent witness to a doctor.

Prisoner said he had no questions to ask the witness.

Mr. G. J. T. Newman said that at about 20 minutes to 3 o'clock yesterday, as he was entering Mr. McDonald's office, he heard a scuffle outside, and, turning round, saw the prisoner strike Koo Ching-tong on the left eye. The Chinese rushed into Mr. McDonald's office and Russell followed him. Witness caught defendant by the arm. Russell had been in witness's office ten minutes before, using bad language and saying that the first time he met Koo Ching-tong he would assault him. He was a little under the influence of liquor. Koo Ching-tong's eye was cut by the broken spectacles (produced).

Mr. T. MacDonald gave evidence as to hearing a scuffle outside his office and seeing Koo Ching-tong rush in with his eye bleeding. Prisoner followed him and was caught by Mr. Newman at the door.

Russell said—Of course the fact of this man having a restraint over my property excited me somewhat and on the impulse of the moment I committed the assault. That is all I have to say.

His Worship—Within the precincts of the Supreme Court and in the presence of an officer of the Court you have violently assaulted this man. He was the plaintiff in a civil suit against you and he was here in a perfectly proper way to claim the protection and assistance of the Court. It would be a grave scandal if suitors who came here did not know they were safe from such conduct. Now it is my duty to deal with your offence in a very definite way. I shall send you to prison for a week without the option of a fine.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN CONSULAR COURT.

Shanghai, 6th June.

Before H. SILVESTRI, Esq.,
Vice-Consul, Acting Judicially.

ILLICIT LIQUOR SELLING.

Defective Sergeant Gilfillan prosecuted C. Weindreich, restaurant-keeper, Ming-hong Road, for having retailed a bottle of beer to P.C. Sulmy, and allowed the same to be consumed on unlicensed premises, in contravention of the Municipal Regulations, at 10.45 p.m. on the 25th ultimo.

Defendant admitted the sale and was fined \$10.

GERMAN CONSULAR COURT.

Shanghai, 12th June.

Before E. SCHNITZLER, Esq., Consul-General
(Acting Judicially), and Messrs. A. DABELSTEIN, R. HEINSEN, HAYNE-MANN, and A. ZICKERMANX.

APPEALS FROM KIAOCHOU.

The Court heard two appeals from sentences imposed by the German Court at Kiaochow. One was from H. Fuchs, who is under sentence of four years and two months' hard labour, together with loss of civil rights for 10 years, for fraudulent bankruptcy, attempting to bribe a government official, assault, and embezzlement. The other appellant was S. T. Heimann sentenced to two years and six months' hard labour, for aiding Fuchs in the fraudulent bankruptcy, and for theft.

After a long deliberation the Court found that the appeals could not be upheld, and that the original sentences would have to be enforced.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 8th June.

Before Mr. WENG, Magistrate, and Mr.

F. S. A. BOURNE, (British) Assessor.

E. J. HOGG v. CHU FU-FU AND OTHERS.

Plaintiff desired the Court to eject defendants from his land. They were living on land which he had agreed to buy some years ago, but they would not leave and he had naturally not paid them the money, some Tls. 3,000. He was prepared, Mr. Hogg pointed out, to show that the endorsement of the deed had been recognised by the authorities and he had held the land and paid the taxes ever since the Mixed Court judgment. The land was transferred to him by his brother. The Assessor what he considered he owed and then suggested that Mr. Hogg pay into Court take possession. Mr. Hogg did not wish to do this saying he would like to have the matter settled peacefully, if possible, but he must have the land. The Magistrate upheld the title deed and suggested that Mr. Hogg pay into Court a reasonable sum which the magistrate would decide upon in addition to what he, Mr. Hogg, owed. Mr. Hogg was agreeable, on condition that the Assessor decided with the Magistrate. The case was adjourned until next Thursday afternoon.

E. O. ARBUTHNOT v. PAN YUEN-CH'ANG
AND SUN SZE-FOO.

This case was last heard on the 23rd of May when it was adjourned for the appearance of a witness for the plaintiff. To-day he appeared. Mr. E. Nelson (Messrs. Stokes and Platt) appeared for Mr. Arbuthnot, and Mr. T. Morgan Phillips (Messrs. Drummond, Phillips, and White-Cooper) for the defendants. Mr. Nelson opened by saying that, in the fifth moon of the eighth year of Kuang Hsi (1882) Major Bros., were in possession of a lot of land registered in the British Consulate as Lot 1291. At the time a hong by the name of Pao Yuen-ch'ang was in existence, the manager of which was well-known in Shanghai. His name was Chu Yu-chi, he had business with Major Bros. The land was accreted land on the Sochow Creek. At the time it was difficult for foreigners to obtain shengko papers for accreted land. Chu Yu-chi obtained shengko rights in that name, and he handed the shengko paper to Major Bros., till in the 12th year of Kuang Hsi (1886) he decided to hand over a proper bill of sale. The shengko paper was signed by Chu Yu-chi for the Pao Yuen-ch'ang hong and the tipao. Mr. Nelson put in the shengko paper and Bill of Sale. Mr. Phillips desired to inspect them, and claimed the documents had been impugned several times. The Assessor remarked it was a question of the validity of the documents. Mr. Nelson produced the tipao, and said the land measured 2 mow 8 fun 9 li 9 hao. His clients had always been in possession of the documents. The tipao said that when he put his chop on, Mr. Major was present. Mr. Phillips then asked the tipao if he would put his chop on if the signatories of the bill of sale and shengko paper were different. The tipao said he would only do so if they were identical. Mr. H. A. Pereira was then called, and a discussion arose over hongs called Pan Yuen-ch'ang and Pao Yuen-ch'ang. Mr. Pereira was not sure about them being separate hongs. Mr. Kingsmill claimed that he had known the Pao Yuen-ch'ang hong for years and had done a lot of business with them. Pun was the sole proprietor, Chu Yu-chi was junior to him. Pun got into difficulties and the hong gradually slid into Chu Yu-chi's hands. He, Mr. Kingsmill, would know Mr. Chu if he saw him. Mr. Nelson said he had produced to the Court

the shengko paper and a bill of sale and he put in receipts for the old taxes and for the last two years which his clients had paid. He claimed that the documents appeared on the face of them genuine, and defendant had given no proof whatever of his claim. Mr. Phillips said he proposed to address the Court and call evidence. It was decided to adjourn the case to 3 p.m. on Monday.

SUNDRY CASES.

At the Mixed Court on Thursday (7th inst.) before Mr. Weng (magistrate), and Mr. S. F. Mayers (British assessor), a native contractor was accused of having insufficient hoarding around the premises in course of erection at the corner of Kiangse and Kiukiang Roads, with the result that a piece of brick fell on a coolie's head and injured him. Mr. G. J. Morrison who appeared said the contractor was employed by him and he did not think accused denied responsibility. The assessor asked if there was any inspection made by the Council previous to a building permit being granted. Mr. Morrison said he did not think there was any regular inspection. No doubt inspection would be made at some time, as a number of large buildings were going up in the Settlement. The hoardings at present used looked fairly good but were not quite what they should be. Inspector Matheson said accused had been warned several times. The hoarding in question had since been attended to. The gap was about 12 feet, but the contractor claimed it was only seven. Accused was let off with a fine of \$10 and \$2 compensation to the injured man.—Inspector Mellows prosecuted four men and a woman, employed in river scavenging boats, for stealing coal from the lighters coaling H.M.S. Hermione. The Inspector stated that Lieut. Good-enough, of the Hermione, had complained to him of the matter and that the boats obstructed the fairway to and from the ship. The lighter people purposely dropped coals into the river and accused dragged for and obtained it. The Assessor remarked that the proper people to get hold of were the lightermen. He quite understood the nuisance caused in blocking the traffic to the ship and they should certainly move away when ordered. Inspector Mellows said all these people were in a clan and had their own chief. If one was told to go away the rest would be sure to know. He had never had any trouble with them previously; they had always obeyed him. The Court decided to send for the chief of the clan and explain to him how matters stood. The woman was discharged, the four men to remain in custody until the appearance of their chief.—On Friday (8th instant) before Mr. Weng (magistrate), and Mr. S. F. Mayers (British assessor), the chief of the Kompo clan of river scavengers was brought before the Court by Inspector Mellows in connection with the case tried on Thursday. He was cautioned and ordered to find security that his clan would in future obey the River Police.—Three men were accused of assaulting a native detective in the King Loong-ka district. The statement made by accused was that one man was selling tickets at the door of a picture gallery, the other two men were gong hunters, when the detective and a friend came up and endeavoured to enter the show. The tickets were for sale for his ticket, not knowing who he was, and was promptly slapped in the face. Trouble arose, and the three men were taken off to the station by the detective. Inspector Matheson said the detective had told him the trouble arose in the street, and gave a different version. The Assessor asked the detective to produce his witness, but he had not come to Court. The Assessor observed that it was almost impossible for people to know all the detec-

tives. They ought, he thought, to be supplied with some kind of badge, as are the detectives in England. The detective should have brought his witness; it was not likely the Court would take his bare word against the statement of three men. The case wanted looking into. The Court dismissed the charge.—On Monday (11th inst.) before Mr. Weng (magistrate), and Mr. S. F. Mayers (British assessor), a man was brought before the Court with four charges of larceny against him, besides attempting to break into the Family Hotel, and returning from deportation. Mr. J. A. Jackson, of the Hotel, appeared, and stated that accused was caught by the watchman after he (accused) had climbed the gate at 3.45 a.m. A woman was charged with receiving a revolver which had been stolen by the prisoner from 12, Canton Road. The man was sentenced to 500 blows, 12 months' hard labour and deportation for the second time, the woman to be released upon finding security.—Mr. T. J. Rowland prosecuted a boy who had been in his employ with stealing bed linen and underclothing from 12, Woosung Road. Mr. Rowland said prisoner had cut up some silk shirts to make handkerchiefs. Accused had only been in Mr. Rowland's employ two months. He was the head boy. He went away when the things were missed, and could not be found for several days. Detective Brown stated that the boy had been discharged about two months ago from foreign employ for stealing. He was given 300 blows and two months' imprisonment.—Inspector F. J. Batty appeared on behalf of the S. S. P. C. A. in the prosecution of a mafuo in Sing Dah's employ for cruelty to a pony by working it while suffering from an open wound. Inspector Batty stated the animal was being driven along the Bund on Saturday when he saw it, and on taking off the harness it was found to be suffering from a raw, open sore and bleeding. He drew attention to the fact that Sing Dah had been fined \$50 for cruelty before, and this was the second case in six weeks. The pony was viewed by the Assessor, and Inspector Batty pointed out that the sore did not look so bad now, as it had been plastered over with some kind of ointment. It would take a month to heal. Sing Dah's excuse in this case was that he could not always be in and out of the stable. He left the head mafuo in charge. The Assessor observed that fines did not seem to have the desired effect of deterring the livery stable keepers from cruelty. He thought it would do more good if they were deprived of the use of the animal. The mafuo was fined \$20, out of which \$10 was to go to the expense of sending the animal to the Kung Yi stables until recovered.—Two well-known thieves were charged with larceny. One man had been deported. The value of the goods stolen was \$63, and consisted of fans, towels and clothing, etc. The man who had been deported was sentenced to 500 blows and 18 months' hard labour, and to be deported again, while the other man received 500 blows, twelve months' hard labour and deportation.—A native tea-shop proprietor was fined \$90 for permitting an immoral play to take place in his shop. The police pointed out that he had no license for plays to be acted in his shop.—A small cash shop owner was charged with attempting to put in circulation a quantity of counterfeit 20-cent pieces. Inspector Bourke said the police heard he was circulating bad money, and sent a detective to his shop to change a \$10 note. Accused had only \$8 small change and he gave eighteen 20-cent pieces for a dollar. The whole 144 pieces were counterfeit and quite new. Inspector Bourke pressed for a heavy penalty, and wished to know if possible where the accused obtained the coins. The case was remanded to discover if possible the manufacturers. Accused said he was not quite sure if he could recognise the

man who gave him the pieces.—The five men who were accused on the 18th ultimo of stabbing a man in seven places at 11.30 p.m. on Shantung Road, and at the same time cutting a native constable's thumb with a chopper, were again before the Court, the injured man having recovered sufficiently to appear. The constable had been five days laid up with his thumb. A number of fighting irons, etc., had been found in accused's house. They were all Pootung men. The two principals were given 500 blows and a year's imprisonment each, one man three months, and the two remaining men were discharged.—On Tuesday (12th instant) afternoon before Mr. Weng (magistrate), and Mr. M. Odagiri (Acting Consul for Japan), the Japanese firm known as Murai Bros. sued the sureties of their compradore for a defalcation of \$26,000. It appeared in the agreement with the compradore that they were not to furnish him goods in excess of Tls. 6,000 at any time. Mr. T. R. Jernigan defended the sureties and argued that as Murai Bros. had violated the agreement they were not entitled to recover, or, that if they were entitled to recover it could only be Tls. 6,000 less the credits due the compradore. The magistrate took the latter view and decided that the credits due the compradore amounted to Tls. 3,000, which he deducted and then gave judgment for Tls. 3,000 which he divided between the two sureties, and which Mr. Jernigan accepted for his clients. It appeared during the trial that after the compradore had run away the Japanese, without any authority, went into the house of one of the sureties, searched it, and affixed their seal to the boxes and trunks, conduct which Mr. Jernigan referred to strongly.—On Tuesday morning before Mr. Weng (magistrate), and Dr. Barcher (American assessor), a man was charged with being in possession of two umbrellas and unable to give a satisfactory account of same. One was a lady's, the other a gentleman's. Accused said he stole them out of a carriage in the Soochow Road. The case was remanded for further enquiries.—A man was charged with being in possession of a box of matches at the Laou-kung-mow mill, Yangtzepoo Road. A representative appeared and stated the man had been employed there for about two months, so must have known the regulations prohibiting carrying matches. He was sentenced to two days' imprisonment.—For deliberately breaking an iron seat valued at \$6.50, belonging to the Municipal Council, a man was given five days' imprisonment.

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

PASSENGERS.

OUTWARD.

Per str. Empress of China, for Japan, etc. Mrs. Tenneborn, Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Patterson and 2 children, Rev. and Mrs. Endicott and 3 children, Mrs. and Miss Warner, Capt. and Mrs. Mackenzie and child, Mr. and Mrs. A. Ewing and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Ugo Cohen, Messrs. F. Urbig, C. E. Seaman, B. Bavanda, W. G. Tollot, E. Oxley Cumming, W. Schiele, M. C. York, A. K. Bourne, Jas. Harvie, F. L. Garrison, W. H. Ellis, L. Erikson, G. L. Smithers, J. G. Kipling, Kroehli, Arlt, A. J. H. Carill, F. de Roza, Schlesinger, J. J. Keswick, H. Lyman, A. R. Rhoden, Huntington, Wickham, C. Waterhouse, H. Say, Owen L. Stratton, and Lazard.

Per str. Laos, for Yokohama—Mr. Jamin. For Kobe—Mrs. M. Schwartz, Messrs. Vremblay, Pamelle, and Y. Takahashi. For Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. Kitchner, Messrs. Bogliano and child, and G. W. Bennett.

Per str. Saikio Maru, for Nagasaki—Miss Tamaka, Countess Chandon, Messrs. T. W. Laidler, Toida, M. Djourachiovitch, M. Brown, S. Tasaki, and T. Yoshimura. For Kobe—Mrs. Hataru, Messrs. Y. Fujita, J. W. Pearson, Ozono, Nagao, and Yung Poh-zah. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Grubisich, Misses Vindin, and Craigh, Messrs. A. G. Sutherland, and T. Nakashima.

Per str. Sachsen, for Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Stevens and family, Mr. and Mrs. Binese, Miss Hilliard, Master Robinson, Dr. Mead, Messrs. Geo. G. Shaw, H. C. Graves, H. Lay, R. M. Gray and family, Y. Kwang, and F. Giovanni. For Foochow—Mr. Nazarov, For London—Messrs. J. Northey, J. Smith, R. Bourie, H. Arthur, G. Woolley, and McFarlane. For Hamburg—Mr. J. Johansen. For Genoa—Mr. J. Murray. For Antwerp—Mr. E. Zewen.

Per str. Hsinyu, for Tangku—Miss V. Troyour, and Dr. Meyer. For Chefoo—Mr. F. G. Powell.

Per str. Hsinchi, for Newchwang—Mr. H. G. Burton.

Per str. Tatung, for Hankow—Mrs. Remusat, child and nurse.

Per str. Poyang, for Hankow—Messrs. L. Michelot, and F. Augustin.

Per str. Hsinji, for Tangku—Mr. McCoy.

Per str. Lienshing, for Weihaiwei—Mrs. McKenzie, Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Heal and 4 children, and Mr. C. M. Dyce.

Per str. Taiwan, for Newchwang—Revs. F. Chacornac, and Bayart.

Per str. Poyang, for Hankow—Mrs. King and child, Messrs. Barrett, and Cartier.

Per str. Kiangkwan, for Hankow—Revs. J. Luzzi, and Marcel.

Per str. Riojun Maru, for Seattle—Messrs. H. P. Ellis, and O. Connolly. For London—Miss Alger, and Mr. J. D. Clark.

Per str. Lienshing, for Weihaiwei—Messrs. H. C. Matheson, Nils Müller, and J. Harring.

For Chefoo—Mr. C. W. Wolde.

Per str. Pe'in, for Ningpo—Messrs. C. Rayner, and Wiederhold.

Per str. Taiwan, for Port Arthur—Mrs. Grosmand.

Per str. Haeshin, for Foochow—Rev. A. Coombel.

Per str. Kiangkwan, for Hankow—Messrs. Dareby, and Lagos.

Per str. Ngankin, for Chinkiang—Mr. H. Nellser.

Per str. Taiwan, for Port Arthur—Mrs. Potismann and Mr. A. Kolowitz.

Per str. Hae-hin, for Foochow—Messrs. J. G. Schroter, and Schellhorn.

Per str. Hsinfung, for Tungk—Mrs. James Jones, and Major Moore.

INWARD.

Per str. Laos, from Marseilles—Misses L. and B. Laplanche, Rev. Pe-es Francois and Mareit, Messrs. Graham Powell, Affray, Mongin, Venchi, J. Legros, C. Richards, R. P. Bayard, Chacornac, and Dorchy. From Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. D. Grossmann, Miss Barry, Messrs. W. Gumbleton, and Scott Cranston and 3 children. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. U. Coh-n, Messrs. A. Well-kournor, F. Tavares, Ulbricht, and John Grant.

Per str. Bengal, from Bombay—Mr. S. J. Joseph. From Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Albert Weill, and Mr. J. Burns. From Penang—Major T. C. Moore. From Singapore—Mrs. Paulina Potischman, Miss Hunter, and Mr. Antone Contomill.

Per str. Saikio Maru, from Yokohama, etc.—Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson and child, Mrs. K. Kagawa, Mrs. N. Yasuda, Messrs. J. Maibara, R. Murayama, Ing Tsu-tsong, Hong Ing, S. Nononsura, C. Hilotsnyangki, U. and Y. Shimidzu, H. Komatsu, Y. Iwasaki, B. Katsuki, and H. C. Riyo.

Per str. Sachsen, from Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. A. Unger, Dr. Meyer, Messrs. H. S. Wilkinson, and E. Hey. From Kobe—Messrs. B. Wallwitz, and Ahrens. From Nagasaki—Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Muirhead, Mrs. and Miss Wehrung, Count and Countess de Bezaure, Messrs. L. E. Waller, and W. Brumfield.

Per str. Indus, from Yokohama—Mr. T. Ackerman. From Kobe—Mrs. Ezra, Messrs. Yu Kee, Morton, and Silas.

Per str. City of Rio de Janeiro, from Hongkong—Messrs. W. J. Solly, H. A. Ramsden, R. A. Dowler, T. Cowen, and Chas. Kuhn.

Per str. Wingsang, from Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Kruz, and Mr. Dixon.

Per str. Empress of China, from Hongkong—Mr., Mrs. and Miss H. Sanderson-Playfair, Mrs. Constable, Messrs. H. Arlt, J. Blumenfeld, and W. J. Barrett.

Per str. Choyssang, from Hongkong—Mrs. Bovern and 2 children. From Swatow—Mrs. Dalzell.

Per str. Genkai Maru, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Sir F. A. Swettenham, Messrs. K.

Nohara. K. Ito, J. T. Hare, Ito, J. Rin, and Bunchan.

Per str. Pekin, from Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. Jorgensen, and Rev. Walker.

Per str. Kiangfoo, from Hankow—Mr. Sheng Fok and family.

Per str. Kiangteen, from Ningpo—Mr. Mikol.

Per str. Tai hun, from Tangku—Mrs. Lang and 4 children.

Per str. Shiwo, from Hankow—Messrs. Harling, Smithers, Murry, Schiele, Chetwood, Grandzelle, and Redman.

Per str. Oigawa, from Hankow—Messrs. M. Oda, Iri, and T. Ozone.

Per str. Pekin, from Ningpo—Mr. J. Smith.

Per str. Poyang, from Hankow—Messrs. A. E. Algar, C. H. Ryle, and L. N. Leep.

Per str. Suitai, from Hankow—Mr. Wo de.

Per str. Tintau, from Tientsin, Chefoo and Tsingtao—Dr. and Mrs. Foike, Messrs. von Bohl-Zlare, Bunese, and W. Scott.

Per str. Hainfung, from Tangku—Mrs. C. E. Brook, and Mrs. B. Lewis.

Per str. Kweilin, from Amoy—Mr. Murakami.

Per str. Haeshin, from Foochow—Count, Countess and Miss de Galember, Miss M. Moorhead, Messrs. Wong, Rendius, and Chuo Oitong.

Per str. Kiangyung, from Hankow—Mr. Gegardi.

Per str. Kiangkwan, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Jadot, Messrs. Cousin, McDonald, and Norton.

Per str. Lienshing, from Tientsin—Major and Mrs. Higgs, Messrs. D. Glass, Goldsmith, Cox, and Wilson.

Per str. Sual, from Hankow—Mr. Biron.

Per str. Yuenwo, from Hankow—Messrs. Morrison, Gelis, Cubitt, and Sundius.

Per str. Tenrigawa Maru, from Hankow—Miss Takanishi.

Per str. Shengking, from Tangku and Chefoo—Mr. Zimlinsky.

Per str. Haeon, from Tangku and Chefoo—Messrs. Clarke, and Kawata.

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Per str. Kiangyui, from Hankow—Mr. Ricalton.

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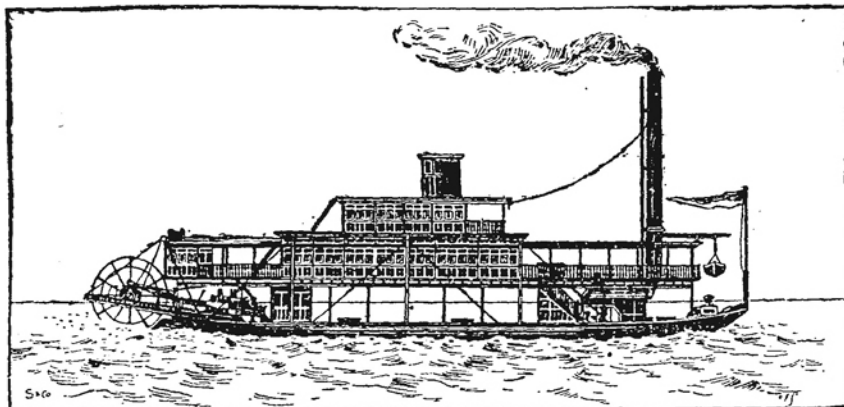
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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

Metals and Miscellaneous.—From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s Report of 8th June :—Referring again to the Customs Returns for Shanghai for the first quarter of this year, as we noted last week, by far the largest increase took place in Imports, the figures for this year being Tls. 1,341,000 as against Tls. 574,000 for 1899 and Tls. 554,000 for 1898. This is a most extraordinary jump which it behoves us to look into more closely. Turning to the table of Imports, we find that Cotton goods, the first item on the list, shows great prosperity, the figures being for shipments of all kinds 2,802,000 for 1900, 1,797,000 for 1899 and 1,115,000 for 1898. Drills, T-Cloths, Jeans, Sheetings, Chintzes, and in fact all lines show an increase of from twenty-five to one hundred per cent. in quantity. Woollen goods in the same way have been imported in much greater quantities, Camlets 13,648 pieces against 6,128, Lastings 16,639 against 10,734, Long Ells 19,610 against 5,916, etc. Metals, on the other hand, show much less advance. Old Iron, 131,690 piculs against 126,169, Steel 11,083 against 4,678 and Tinplates 8,728 against 4,284, are the main lines showing improvement, though the other items nearly kept their standing. In Foreign Sundries we find an increase in Coal, Dyes, Window Glass, Matches, Needles, Kerosene, the latter especially having doubled, while Needles, Matches and Dyes are fifty per cent greater. Native Sundries show no such increase, so that in spite of the cry of the merchant there can be little doubt that the increased Revenue for the quarter in Shanghai has been very largely due to the increased importation of foreign goods. Of these, as was to be expected from the great profits made last year, Cotton and Woollen piece goods have taken a most important place, but nearly all foreign goods seem to have felt the impetus.

While the total amount of revenue collected on Exported goods from Shanghai showed a decided increase, there is no evidence in the figures of anything like such a spurt as has occurred in imports. One item which is well worth attention, however, is that Cotton, in spite of the increased home demand, was exported in larger quantities, the figures being 155,753 piculs for 1900, 130,680 for 1899 and 148,472 piculs for 1898.

These figures provide ample food for reflection and consideration by themselves, while the whole report, as concerns Shanghai, is certainly well worthy of the study of all interested in the trade of the port.

The startling news from Peking and the North generally during the past week has utterly demoralised all business with the natives. The Northern traders have telegraphed instructions to suspend all shipments until further orders. Iron of all kinds is being offered in Tientsin and Newchwang one to two per cent below Shanghai rates, in order to clear stocks. In addition to the damage done by this suspension of trade, many dealers here stand to lose heavily if the disorder spreads, as in many cases cargo, paid for here, is sent to northern ports on two months' credit, and the present upheaval may prevent the bills being met at due date.

The newspapers have been full of details of the troubles during the week. Foreigners and Christian Chinese alike seem to be the objects of attack. Several railway engineers and missionaries are reported killed, the railway has been torn up in places, and the whole country between Peking, Tientsin and Pao-tung-fu is in a state of turmoil. The Legation guards in Peking have been strengthened, six hundred troops are in Tientsin, and Russia is reported to be ready to move large bodies at short notice from Port Arthur. The position is certainly serious, and the wildest rumours are current among the Chinese. It is no wonder trade is upset.

The only transaction reported is 250 tons Red Car. No. 4 Pig Iron, 93s. 6d. c.i.f.c.

EXPORT.

Tea.—Hankow Statistics, from the General Chamber of Commerce Circular of 7th June.—Business reported since the 31st ultimo, is as under :—

	1900.	1899.
Settlements	75,112 ½-chests.	78,044 ½-chests.
Consisting of the following Teas :—		
Ningchows	26,331 ½-chests, at £15.00 @ 75.00 per picul.	
Khemums	902 " " 13.75 21.00 "	
Ho-hows	1,460 " " 14.25 15.00 "	
I-changs	1,977 " " 44.00 57.00 "	
Wen-chows	1,140 " " 17.50 17.75 "	
Oopacks	4,638 " " 12.25 17.60 "	
Onams	10,329 " " 10.40 27.75 "	
Onfaas	22,543 " " 14.00 25.00 "	
Seang-tams	5,792 " " 11.00 13.00 "	

The following are Statistics at date, compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz., 8th June, 1899.

	1900.	1899.		1900.	1899.
HANKOW TEA.	½-chests.		KIUKIANG TEA.	½-chests.	
Settlements	440,055	416,345	Settlements	187,617	179,271
Stock	38,158	60,476	Stock	13,047	28,527
Arrivals	478,213	476,821	Arrivals	200,664	207,798

The entire business to date, as compared with the corresponding circular of last year, is estimated as under :—

	1900.	1899.
For London, America and European Continent.	90,672 ½-chests.	113,616 ½-chests.
" Russia	537,000 "	482,000 "
	627,672	595,616

Comparative quotations are as under :—

	1900.	1899.	1898.
Ningchows	£15.00 @ 57.00	£16.10 @ 62.00	£15.25 @ 41.00 per picul.
Khemums	13.75 21.00	19.50 36.00	24.00 51.50 "
Ho-hows	14.25 15.00	16.00 18.00	14.50 "
I-changs	44.00 57.00	49.00	40.00 43.00 "
Wen-chows	17.50 17.75		
Oopacks	12.25 17.60	13.50 18.60	10.90 43.00 "
Onams	10.40 27.75	12.00 31.00	10.30 32.00 "
Onfaas	14.00 25.00	14.50 31.50	13.00 29.00 "
Seang-tams	11.00 13.00	11.00 15.50	10.30 15.50 "

The export to date as per Customs Returns stands thus :—

Season 1900 × 1901	2,269,848 lbs.	1,934,300 lbs. Re-exports.
" 1899 × 1900	11,788,912 "	5,848,460 "
" 1898 × 1899	7,942,838 "	5,690,925 "
" 1897 × 1898	6,414,685 "	4,530,335 "

The following are the departures for London—nil. lbs.

Against in 2 steamers last year

Departures for Odessa—nil. lbs.

Against in 2 steamers last year

FREIGHTS.—For London—The through rate via Shanghai per Conference steamers is 57/6 per ton. For Odessa—The a.s. Herson clears to-day and the a.s. Odessa will clear to-morrow.

The Tea Statistics in this Report are made up to the evening of the 6th instant.

Exchange.—(Closing Rates)—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 2s. 8½d. Bank Bills, demand 2s. 8½d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight 2s. 8½d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 2s. 8½d.; a 2/9, 6 months' sight, 2s. 9½d a ½; Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 2s. 9½d. : a ½, 6 months' sight, 2s. 9½d a ½. On France—Bank Bills, Transfer, Fcs. 3.40. Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 3.45½ a 46, 6 months' sight, 3.47½ a 48. On Germany—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, Marks 2.83, lowest 2.82½, highest 2.83. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, per £100 G.\$67½, lowest 67½, highest 67½. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 72½, lowest 72½, highest 72½, per \$100. On Yokohama—Telegraphic Transfers 77½, lowest 74½, highest 74½ per Yen 100. Private Bills, 15 days' sight, 77½, lowest 74, highest 73½. On Bombay and Calcutta—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 202½, lowest 202½, highest 203 per £100. Bank Bills, demand, Rs. 203, lowest 203, highest 203½. Bullion—Gold Bars, Shanghai, 98 touch, per £100, £363.00, lowest 356.50, highest 363.00. Silver Bars, per £100, £111.15, lowest 111.10, highest 111.20. Mexican dollars, per \$100, £74.17, lowest 74.0, highest 74.20. Copper Cash 1,200, lowest 1,200, highest 1,200. Chinese Interest, made 2.60, lowest 1.5, highest 3.20. Bar Silver in London, per oz. 27½, lowest 27½, highest 27½.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morriss & Robertson's Circular.)

June.	Bar Silver per oz in L'don.	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		GER-	NEW	HONG-	YOKO-	INDIA.
		T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.		MAN- Y.	YORK.	KONG.	HAMA.	
		Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	4 m/s. Priv.	Docty. 4 m/s.		T/T	
5th	27½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.9	2.9	2.9½	3.45/47	3.46/48	2.83½	67½	72½	74½	(212½)
6th	27½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.9	2.9½	2.9½	3.45½/47½	3.46/48	2.83	67½	72½	74½	(203½)
7th	27½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.9	2.9½	2.9½	3.45½/47½	3.46/48	2.83	67½	72½	74½	(203½)

Shares.—From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report of 6th instant:—

Business has been done to a moderate extent in stocks generally during the past week.

BANKS.—In Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares no local business is reported, but there are sellers in Hongkong at 318½ prem., and the London rate is £55.0.0.

INSURANCE.—In Marine stocks, Unions have been placed at \$260, and Yangtszes at \$128 and \$125, whilst in Fires Chinas were done at \$79.

SHIPPING.—Indo-China market has been quiet, but sales at £67.50 (cum div.) for December are reported. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares were sold at \$31 to Hongkong China Mutual Ordinary and Preference shares are in request.

SUGARS.—Perak shares have continued in demand and have changed hands at £71 and £70 cash; there are cash buyers at the latter figure. Time sales were effected at £72.50 for June and £74 July. In other Sugar stocks nothing has been doing.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Boyd & Co. shares were placed at £225; S. C. Furnham & Co. at £265; Shanghai Engineering & Dock Co. Ordinary shares changed hands at £80 and £84 cash, £85 for 3rd June and £44, £85, £86 and £88 for August; Preference shares were placed at £101 and a lot of Founders sold at £230. Hongkong & Whampoa Docks have improved in Hongkong to sales at 490%, 495% and 500% prem. closing with buyers at 495% prem; Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares changed hands at £295 cash and £295 for end of the month; Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. shares were sold to Hongkong at \$86.

LAND AND BUILDINGS.—Wei-hai-wei Land and Building Co. shares were placed at £20 and shares are offering at this figure. In Hongkong, shares of the Hongkong Land Investment Co. have been settled at \$134, \$134.50 and \$137.

INDUSTRIAL.—Gas Co. shares changed hands at £193½; International Cotton Mill shares have been sold at £61 and £60; shares in Laou-kung-mow and Yoh Loong Cotton Mills are offering; Ice shares were placed at £32 and Flour Mills at £30; Green Island Cement Co. shares were settled at \$22.50 for 15th October; and Major Bors. shares at £38.

TUGS & CARGO BOATS.—Shares are offering in Cargo Boat Companies.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Sum-tra Tobacco shares were done at £42.50 and £40 cash and £40 for September delivery. Langkat Tobacco shares were placed at £305.30-245-290-285-290-287½ and 290 cash and the market close with cash buyers at £299; and the following time settlements have been made:—£300, 297.50 and 295 for 30th June, £325 and 315 for September, £330, 315 and 320 for October, £345 and £325 for December; Hall & Holtz shares changed hands at £28 and Central Stores at \$9.

DEBENTURES.—Municipal 5 per cent Debentures sold at £92.50, Waterworks 6 per cent at £105 and Chinese Government E Loan Bonds at £52.50, all with accrued interest as usual.

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Return on Inv. allowing for Amortization.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures	1892 £50,000.00	£50,000.00	£100	5%	June & Dec.	(a) 6.23%	... (a) £92.50
Do. Do.	1893 £125,000.00	£60,000.00	£100	5½%	Do.	(g) 6.06%	... (a) £95.00
Do. Do.	1894 £105,000.00	£105,000.00	£100	6%	Do.	(g) 5.70%	... (a) £101.00
Do. Do.	1895 £115,000.00	£115,000.00	£100	5%	Do.	(g) 6.03%	... (a) £92.50
Do. Do.	1896 £140,000.00	£140,000.00	£100	5%	Do.	(g) 6.00%	... (a) £92.50
Do. Do.	1897 £268,800.00	£268,800.00	£100	5%	Do.	(g) 5.93%	... (a) £92.50
Do. Do.	1898 £300,000.00	£300,000.00	£100	6%	Do.	(g) 5.73%	... (a) £101.00
Lyceum Theatre Debentures	1898 £17,000.00	£17,000.00	£25	4%	(t) 30 June, 1899	...	... £16.00
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1886 E	£767,200.00	£809,500.00	£250	7%	Mar. & Sept.	(g) 7.00%	... (a) £22.50
Shanghai Land Inv. Co. Debentures 1890	£250,000.00	£250,000.00	£100	6%	May & Nov.	(g) 5.74%	... (a) £102.00
Do. Do.	1892 £250,000.00	£250,000.00	£100	5½%	June & Dec.	(g) 6.10%	... (a) £95.00
Do. Do.	1894 £250,000.00	£250,000.00	£100	5%	Mar. & Sept.	(g) 5.79%	... (a) £102.00
Do. Do.	1896 £250,000.00	£250,000.00	£100	5%	June & Dec.	(g) 6.00%	... (a) £92.50
Do. Do.	1900 £250,000.00	£250,000.00	£100	6%	April & Oct.	...	... (a) £103.00
Shanghai Waterworks Co. Debentures 1894	£100,000.00	£100,000.00	£100	5%	Mar. & Sept.	(g) 5.89%	... (a) £101.00
Do. Do.	1895 £100,000.00	£100,000.00	£100	5%	June & Dec.	(g) 6.03%	... (a) £92.50
Do. Do.	1896 £50,000.00	£50,000.00	£100	6%	June & Dec.	(g) 6.00%	... (a) £100.00
Do. Do.	1900 £100,000.00	£100,000.00	£100	6%	Mar. & Dec.	(g) 5.75%	... (a) £105.00
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co. Do.	1894 £370,000.00	£370,000.00	£100	6%	June & Dec.	(g) 5.68%	... (a) £103.00
Do. Do.	1896 £500,000.00	£500,000.00	£100	6%	June & Dec.	(g) 5.71%	... (a) £103.00
Perak Sugar Co. Debentures 1896	£100,000.00	£100,000.00	£100	7%	June & Dec.	(g) 6.83%	... (a) £102.00
Shanghai Gas Co. Do.	1897 £100,000.00	£100,000.00	£100	5%	April & Oct.	(g) 5.96%	... (a) £92.50
Do. Do.	1899 £100,000.00	£100,000.00	£100	6%	May & Nov.	(g) 5.91%	... (a) £101.00

SHARES.

SHANGHAI, 13th June, 1900.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVID. & C.		Average dividends for 3 years.	Return on investment on average of 3 years' dividends	CASH QUOTATION	
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders	When paid or due.			Closing.	Tls.
<i>Banks.</i>												
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co.	80,000	\$125	\$125	\$11,500,000	\$960,843.53	31-12-99	*£2	19-2-00	\$33.22	per cent.	310 pm	374 13
Bank of China & Japan Ltd.												
Do. ordinary shares	106,761	£8	£4	.....	£204,422.17	31-12-99	None.	.....	.....	.....	£1.0.0	7.50
Do. deferred do.	1,119	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£5.5.0	.....
National Bank of China, Ltd.	40,453	£10	£8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.66	\$27.00	19.71
Do. Founders'	3,818	£10	.....	\$209,606.65	\$9,584.01	31-12-99	†\$1.36	12-3-00	\$0.45	.....	nominal	nom.
Do. Founders'	750	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$20.00	14.60
<i>(Marine Insurance).</i>												
Union In. Society of Canton, Ltd.	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,360,000.00 (e) 847,571.00	\$1,149,031.68	30-6-99	†\$18	12-10-99	\$17.00	6.54	\$260.00	189.80
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ltd.	24,000	\$83.35	\$25	\$900,000.00 e \$145,884.35	\$202,555.95	30-4-99	†\$4	10-10-99	\$4.00	7.40	\$54.00	39.42
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	£100	£25	\$190,000.00	.....	30-6-99	†\$9.23	19-4-00	\$19.01	11.5	.....	165.00
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n, Ltd.	8,000	\$100	\$60	\$516,000.00 e \$85,561.27	\$365,858.07	31-12-97	\$12.00	20-4-00	\$ 8.00	6.40	\$125.00	91.25
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,150,000.00	\$27,387.50	31-12-98	†\$11	14-10-99	\$10.33	7.94	\$130.00	94.90
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd. in Lq.	30,000	\$100	\$20	.....	\$2,153.79	31-12-98	†\$2	27-3-96	\$0.67	.....	1.00	0.73
<i>(Fire Insurance).</i>												
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Ltd.	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,093,757.19	\$334,340.50	31-12-99	†\$27	2-3-00	\$26.00	8.81	\$295.0	215.35
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$1,001,867.22	\$223,763.03	31-12-99	†\$6.00	8-3-00	\$6.22	7.86	\$79.09	57.67
<i>Shipping.</i>												
H'kong, C'ton & M'cao S. B. Co.	80,000	\$15	\$15	\$809,000.00	\$43,213.41	31-12-99	*\$8	1-2-00	\$2.33	7.50	\$31.00	22.63
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co.	49,589	£10	£10	£135,501	£19,197.13	31-12-98	†\$5.84	13-7-99	\$3.19	4.88	.....	65.25
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$231,187.38 e 47,446.12	.....	30-6-99	†\$6.00	27-9-98	\$3.33	6.80	\$49.00	35.77
Ch. Mutual S. N. Co. pref. shares.	16,736	£10	£10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75.00
Do. ord. do.	1,231	£10	£10	(c) £22,962.15	£5,090.11	31-12-99	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nom.
Do. do. do.	15,505	£10	£5	£25,000.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.09	.....	36.00
<i>Sugar Companies.</i>												
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.	5,000	\$50	\$50	\$35,000	\$5,765.77	31-8-99	†\$2.50	30-4-00	\$3.08	4.40	.....	70.00
Do. New issue	2,000	\$50	\$10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nom.	.....
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$100	\$160,000.00	.....	31-12-99	†\$7	29-3-00	\$13.00	10.40	\$125.00	91.25
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.	7,000	\$100	\$100	none	\$25,679.41	31-12-99	†\$3	23-3-99	.....	.....	\$36.00	26.28
<i>Mining.</i>												
Sheridan Con. M. & M. Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$100	.....	\$165,500.30	31-12-98	None.	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.00
Panjon Mining Co., Ltd.	59,650	\$8	\$7	.....	\$572,363.56	31-12-99	None.	.....	.....	.....	£6.50	4.75
Do. pref. shares.	30,000	\$1	\$1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£1.40	1.02
Jebeu Mining & Trading Co. Ltd.	45,000	\$5	\$5	.....	\$557,969.82	6-8-99	*\$5	15-10-94	.....	.....	\$13.00	9.49
Raub A'lian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.	200,000	£1	16 1/2	none	£2,361.17	31-3-97	\$0.50	24-7-99	\$1.02	1.76	\$58.00	42.34
<i>Docks, Wharves and Godowns.</i>												
Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders'	200	\$100	\$100	\$250,000.00	\$3,618.15	30-4-99	†\$78	8-7-99	\$65.00	.....	nom.	.....
Boyd & Co., Ltd., Ordinary	7,800	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	†\$14	8-7-99	\$13.33	5.92	.....	225.10
S. C. Farnham & Co., Ltd.	8,000	\$100	\$100	\$425,000	\$19,800.14	30-6-99	†\$15	15-9-99	\$13.00	4.90	.....	265.00
S'hai E. S. & Dock Co., Ltd. ord.	6,000	\$100	\$100	.....	\$47,947.86	30-4-99	*nom.	.....	.....	.....	84.00	.....
Do. Founders'	200	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200.00	.....
Do. Pref.	1,300	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	101.00	.....
H'kong & W'poa Dock Co., Ltd.	12,500	\$125	\$125	\$900,000	\$349,369.36	31-12-99	*\$3.50	30-8-99	.....	.....	.....	547.50
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co., Ltd.	15,100	\$100	\$100	.....	\$23,281.15	31-12-99	†\$11	30-3-00	\$12.67	4.29	\$750.00	295.00
H'kong & K'loon Wh. & G. Co. Ltd	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$68,183.19	\$60,160.61	31-12-99	†\$2.50	5-3-00	\$4.25	4.91	\$86.50	63.15
<i>Lands.</i>												
Sh. Land Investment Co., Ltd.	26,000	\$50	\$50	\$231,490.71	\$7,229.70	31-12-99	†\$3.75	16-2-00	\$5.55	5.55	.....	100.00
H'kong Land Invest. & A. Co. Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$50	\$1,500,000	\$2,352.94	31-12-99	†\$3.50	24-1-00	\$5	3.64	\$137.00	100.10
Kowloon Land & Building Co. Ltd	5,960	\$50	\$30	none	\$365.25	31-12-99	†\$1.25	6-2-99	\$1.08	4.15	\$26.00	18.98
Humphreys Estate & F. Co., Ltd.	100,000	\$10	\$10	\$25,000.00	\$4,873.83	31-12-99	†\$0.50	20-2-00	\$0.67	5.42	10.50	7.67
Wei-hai-wei Land & B. Co., Ltd.	3,000	\$25	\$25	.....	\$2,566.39	31-12-99	None	.....	.....	.....	20.00	.....
<i>Industrial.</i>												
Shanghai Gas Co.	3,000	\$100	\$100	\$1,000,000	\$3,815.29	31-12-99	†\$8.00	17-1-00	\$14.00	7.32	.....	193.25
Do. New issue	1,000	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	185.00	.....
Major Brothers, Ltd.	5,500	\$50	\$50	\$17,902.50	.....	31-12-99	†\$21	21-3-00	\$1.50	3.97	.....	38.00
Ewo Cotton Spinning & Weav. } Co., Ltd.	15,000	\$100	\$100	.....	\$2,427.56	31-10-99	.....	.....	.....	.....	65.00	.....
International Cotton Man. Co. Ltd	8,384	\$100	\$100	.....	\$148,965.22	30-9-99	†\$3.00	30-4-98	.....	.....	60.00	.....
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	\$100	\$100	.....	\$4,604.31	31-12-99	†\$4	1-8-98	.....	.....	60.00	.....
Soy Chee Cotton Spin. Co., Ltd.	2,000	\$500	\$500	.....	\$5,617.85	31-12-99	†\$20	1-2-98	.....	.....	\$75.00	.....
Yah Loong Cotton Spin. Co., Ltd.	7,500	\$100	\$100	.....	\$25,983.10	31-12-99	None	.....	.....	.....	56.00	.....
H'kong Cotton S.W. & D. Co., Ltd.	9,000	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	31-7-99	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$37.00	27.01
Shanghai Ice, C. S. & R. Co., Ltd.	7,620	\$25	\$25	.....	\$1,933.30	11-99	.....	6% 26-4-00	.....	.....	32.00	.....
Shanghai Rice Mill Co., Ltd.	2,235	\$25	\$25	.....	\$525.36	31-12-99	†\$8	21-2-00	\$1.50	6.25	.....	24.00
China Flour Mill Co., Ltd.	4,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$3,439.94	31-12-99	None.	.....	.....	.....	30.00	.....
American Cigarette Co., Ltd.	3,000	\$50	\$50	.....	3,282.71	31-12-98	†\$3	9-3-99	.....	.....	00	.....
Shanghai Pulp & Paper Co., Ltd.	4,500	\$100	\$25	.....	.....	.....	First year	.....	.....	.....	25.00	.....
Shanghai Steam Laundry Co., Ltd.	2,500	\$20	\$20	.....	.....	.....	First year	.....	.....	.....	20.00	.....
Yue-Kang Glue Factory Co., Ltd.	2,000	\$50	\$50	.....	.....	.....	First year	.....	.....	.....	50.00	.....
S. Moutrie & Co., Ltd.	2,500	\$50	\$50	.....	.....	.....	†\$4	9-5-00	.....	.....	\$50.00	36.50
<i>Tugs and Cargo Boats.</i>												
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ltd.	1,000	\$100	\$100	\$92,000.00	\$2,434.21	31-12-99	†\$5	21-3-00	\$20	8.51	.....	235.00
Taku Tug and Lighter Co., Ltd.	8,600	£50	£50	\$383,151.85	\$8,194.85	31-12-99	(m) †\$10	1-3-00	\$7.17	6.37	£90.00	92.70
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co., Ltd.	2,000	\$100	\$100	\$140,425.39	\$5,334.42	31-12-99	†\$8	6-3-99	\$13.67	6.94	.....	197.00
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co., Ltd.	1,000	\$100	\$100	\$68,152.84	\$1,988.41	31-12-99	†\$8	6-3-00	\$12.00	6.48	.....	185.00
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>												
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	7,200	\$20	\$20	\$55,000.00	\$3,614.07	31-12-99	†\$9.23	24-3-00	\$15.21	5.85	.....	260.00
Tientsin Waterworks Co., Ltd.	650	\$100	\$100	.....	\$15,557.62	30-4-98	.....	.....	.....	.....	£100.00	.....
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.	13,000	\$20	\$20	\$95,000.00	197.65	31-12-99	†\$3	17-3-00	\$4.72	11.80	.....	40.00
Shanghai-Langkat Tob. Co., Ltd.	9,950	\$100	\$100	.....	\$243,913.23	31-12-99	None.	.....	.....	.....	290.00	.....
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.	1,800	\$50	\$50	.....	\$5,160.85	31-12-98	†\$10	20-4-00	\$5.00	7.14	.....	75.00
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd.	1,200	\$100	\$100	.....	\$11,073.31	12-99	†\$3	31-5-00	\$3.33	6.40	\$52.00	37.96
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.	14,000	\$20	\$20	\$152,500.00	\$9,513.82	28-2-00	†\$4.00	21-4-00	\$4.00	11.11 (i)	\$28.00	20.44
A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$150,000	\$10,764.16	31-12-99	†\$6	14-5-00	\$1.66	6.62	\$16.00	11.68
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.	30,000	\$10	\$10	none	\$2,027.09	30-4-99	†\$6	10-7-99	\$0.50	4.21	\$11.85	8.65
Do. New issue	30,000	\$10	\$2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$2.10	1.53
Central Stores, Ltd.	6,000	\$15	\$12	.....	\$5,228.02	31-12-99	\$0.60	28-2-00	.....	.....	\$9.00	6.50

J. P. BISSET & Co.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE "NORTH-CHINA HERALD."

SHANGHAI, 13TH JUNE, 1900.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co. Piece Goods Trade Report of 7th June.)

PIECE GOODS.—As was only to be expected the interval since our last has been quite devoid of interest in this department of the trade. Disquieting news of a very serious nature continues to come in from the North, things having got to such a pass that the natives are paralyzed with fear. All business in TIENTSIN is at a standstill, and shipments from this have been suspended, but it is reported at the close that telegraphic orders are in to resume shipments, and the steamer clearing to-day is taking a fair quantity it is said, showing that the prompt steps taken by the Foreign Powers is, apparently, having some effect in restoring confidence. At the same time we do not think the Native Hongs here are prepared to run any risks with their own cargo, in fact their Bankers will not give them the necessary facilities, and it is probably only goods that have been ordered for direct shipment by TIENTSIN houses that are going forward. As mentioned before this business has been largely increased lately, the accommodation which Importers are able to obtain from financiers at home allowing them to extend the credit system to their native clients, by which the cargo is delivered on arrival and payment deferred for two months or so, the compradore of the house guaranteeing the transaction. At such times as the present this must be a very risky business and is bound to lead to serious trouble to those concerned. The facilities given for this style of business are not, we understand, confined to the financial arrangements, but the freight from LIVERPOOL to TIENTSIN, including transshipping charges here, is identically the same as on shipments to SHANGHAI.

The interruption to business in the North has come at a very inopportune time, and quite upset what was promising to be a continuation of a profitable trade. As it is buyers for other markets in the North are taking fright at, or else advantage of, the present state of things in TIENTSIN and refrain from buying, although there is no doubt that for NEWCHANG at least there is a good healthy demand for both goods and Yarn. From HANKOW advices are satisfactory, and particularly so from NINGBO. This accounts, to a great extent, for the steady prices for Cottons realised at Auction, though the reduced quantity offered to-day, through the accidental delay to a steamer, no doubt had something to do with it.

The MANCHESTER market is closed for the usual Whitsuntide holidays, but recent telegrams describe it as firm, with a prospect of some curtailment of the supply. Cotton has recovered to 5d. in LIVERPOOL. The Export for last month amounted to 37,000,000 yards of Plain Cottons, making the total for the five months 218,000,000 yards, which is much in excess of any previous year for the same period. The Yarn shipments were 360 bales to HONGKONG, 200 bales to SHANGHAI and 3,500 bales to JAPAN.

There is no special news from NEW YORK, most houses having advised their agents to stop sending quotations for the present, and so save a useless expense. The indications are that prices are coming down, and the decline will probably be hastened by the impatience of Manufacturers to secure more orders.

With the exception of a fair demand for INDIAN spinnings for NEWCHANG the market has been quiet, but steady. Some forward contracts have been made for JAPANESE Yarn during the interval. LOCAL spinnings are neglected. COTTON is slightly easier.

Grey Shirtings.—*S. & J.*—Although judging by the Auctions, the market is certainly firm for most qualities, privately business is almost at a standstill, the only transactions reported being:—1500 pieces *Elephant & Lion* at £2.40 and 2700 pieces *Blue Man & Flay* at £2.76 and £2.77½.

Light Weights.—For the 4½-lbs. there was a slight decline at Auction, but the 7-lbs. advanced three to five candareens.

Heavy Weights.—Small sales are reported of 10-lbs.—*Orchid* at £2.73 less 1 per cent., and *Blue Dragon and 5 Old Man* at £3.30, and a fairly large line of *Eagle BX* at £3.20 less 1 per cent. Steady to firm prices prevailed at the Auction this morning, but yesterday they were weaker all round.

12-lbs. 36-inch.—We are advised of the sale of 1,500 pieces *Woman and Loom* at £3.52½ and is the only transaction we hear of privately. At the Auction yesterday prices were all lower, but the small parcels to-day went higher than last week.

White Shirtings.—Only one solitary transaction has appeared, namely, 500 pieces *Flower* at £4.05. 64-reeds were all lower at Auction, but the higher reeds and heavier cloths were firm and advancing.

T. Cloths and Jeans.—No movement has been reported in either of these makes privately since our last, but at Auction their position has been fairly well maintained.

Drills.—There is a demand for AMERICAN makes for NEWCHANG, and some 18,000 pieces have been taken from first hands as follows:—*Envy BB* at £3.57½, *Blue Pigeon* and *Pacolei, Stag's Head* £3.60, and *Lighthouse* £3.65. It is said that a fair quantity has been resold by the TIENTSIN men.

Sheetings.—In these also only AMERICAN have been dealt in, the sales reported amounting to about 15,000 pieces, namely, *Two Squirrel* at £3.20 and *Pacolei, Stag's Head* £3.57½. Resales amongst the Natives have taken place in this make also.

Fancy Goods.—There is next to nothing doing still, beyond an indent or two here and there for special things. *Prints* are in a bad way, the stocks in Native hands being large. *Black Cotton Italians* at Auction were mostly weaker.

Woollens.—The weakness of the market for these goods was well illustrated at the Auctions, a general decline for all descriptions being the result.

Cotton Yarn.—INDIAN.—The market is keeping wonderfully steady, a fair business being reported this week at unchanged prices, there being a good demand for No. 10s. for NEWCHANG, the other counts settled being taking for the River Ports. It has to be noted, however, that the bulk of the business reported was done early in the week, the demand falling off at the close. The sales amount to 2,874 bales, as follows:—

No. 10s., 1,783 bales.—*Hongkong Mill* £65.50, *Damodar Lakhmidass* £66.25, *Morarju, Jubilee, Mule* and *Hope Mill* £66.50, *E. D. Sassoon, 3 Joss* £66.50/66.75, *Bombay Cotton, Mule* £66.75, *Peero Mill* and *Jamshed, Mule* £67.00, *Imperial* and *Anglo-Indian, Mule* £67.00/67.25, *Anglo-Indian, Ring* £67.50, *Sorab* £68.00, *Empress Mill* £68.25/68.50, *Currimbhoy, Ring* £68.50, and *Tea Carrier* £68.25/68.75.

No. 12s., 175 bales.—*Standard* £70.00 and *E. D. Sassoon, Joss House* £71.75.

No. 16s., 116 bales.—*Currimbhoy, Mule* £74.00 and *M. Petit* £74.50.

No. 20s., 800 bales.—*Vithaldas Copoldas, Woman* £75.50. *Pabaney, Mule* £76.00, *Hope Mill* £76.25, *Currimbhoy, Mule* and *Damodar Lakhmidass* £76.50, *Howard and Bullough* £77.00 and *Tea Carrier* £77.75.

JAPAN.—Further business has been done this week to extent of about 1,000 bales, prices showing no change. In addition forward contracts for 1,500 bales No. 20s. have been booked at from £75.25 to £76.25, the first price being for small bales.

LOCAL.—There is a little doing this week, the following transactions being reported by the Foreign Mills:—*Ero.*—200 bales *Eagle* No. 10s. £67.00 and 20 bales *Dragon* No. 12s. £71.75. *Soy Chee* 50 bales *Anchor* No. 10s. £69.00. *Laon Kung Mow* 250 bales, No. 10s. No. 1 £70.00 and No. 2 £68.00. The prices realised for Bundles by Native sellers are as follows:—No. 12s. £68.50/71.00 No. 14s. £70.00/73.00 and No. 16s. £72.00/74.00.

COTTON.—The quotation for best steam machine ginned is £17.80 net. Many of the Mills find the ordinary SHANGHAI cargo at £16.50/16.80 good enough apparently.

EXPORT.

Silk.—From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular of 8th June:—

The Home markets keep quiet, and there is very little doing.

RAW SILK.—There is very little to report, Gold Kilings have been taken at Tls. 480.

YELLOW SILK.—Nothing doing.

Arrivals as per Customs Return June 2nd to 6th are: 1,160 bales White, and 1 bale Wild Silk.

RE-REELS AND HAND FILATURES.—
STEAM FILATURES.—

WILD SILK.—Nothing fresh to report.

WASTE SILK.—Business very quiet.

PONGEES.—500 piculs White have been settled at Tls. 17.40 for 21/22" x 56/57 oz. x 5% congee cargo. In Shantung Pongees 500 pieces have been settled, 33/34" x 19/20 yds. x 37/38 oz. at Tls. 8.40.

Quotations in Taels per picul: Average Exchange for the week 4 m./s. 2/8¹/₈ and Fcs. 3.46. Freight Tls. 7.25 per cwt.

TSATLEES.—		Tls. per cel.	TAYSAM.—		Tls. per cel.
Blue Elephant	532½		Single Butterfly	430	
Bird Chunling	525		Double " 1	410	
Gold Kiling	480		" 2	390	

	1900-1901.	1899-1900.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1895-96.
Settlements for this mail about	400	300	100	...	300	3,000 bales.
" season in- cluding forward contracts } "	3,750	30,000	5,200	4,000	1,200	5,500 "
Stock + ... " "	8,000	200	2,600	2,500	7,500	4,500 "
Total Arrivals, including Steam Filatures " "	1,160	5,500	990	2,000	...	8,500 "

† Including 7,000 bales Old Silk.

	* England.	* France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Japan, Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.
Export of Steam Filatures, pls. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	..... bales.
Export White Silk in Bales of 80 catties }	25	25	119	100	.....	244	"
" Yellow Silk in piculs... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" Wild " " "	35	35	15	.....	.....	50	"
Total.....	60	60	134	100	.....	294	"
Against in 1899-1900	20	491	511	...	46	...	557
" 1898-99	214	214	...	107	16	337	"
" 1897-98	246	246	120	...	45	411	"
" 1896-97	27	626	653	73	55	72	853
" 1895-96	23	1,015	1,038	536	48	65	1,687
" 1894-95	155	715	900	191	53	28	1,172
Export Waste Silk	426	57	483	...	...	...	483 piculs
Against in 1899-1900	405	143	548	280	...	13	841
" 1898-99	207	...	207	...	...	32	239
" 1897-98	69	69	...	...	...	69	"
Export Cocoons.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Against in 1899-1900	...	...	...	...	...	54	54
" 1898-99	...	...	...	...	...	51	51
" 1897-98	...	...	...	...	...	29	29

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctions for the week ending 7th June, 1900, comprised the following Goods:—

	For the week.	Previous week.	Corresponding week last year.		For the week.	Previous week.	Corresponding week last year.
	pes.	against	pes. and		pes.	against	pes. and
Grey Shirts.....	13,980		20,335	Velvets			
White Shirts.....	4,470		6,480	Velveteens			
T-Cloths	1,795		1,360	Cotton Italians	1,280	2,220	2,010
Drills, English				Camlets	560	570	610
Jeans	160		160	Long Ellis	360	380	700
Theetings	560		390	Lastings	480	480	480
Turkey Reds			2,200	Spanish Stripes	119	420	228

At E-wo, 6th inst.—

Grey Shirtings.—8.4-lbs.—2,100 pieces; *Man and Gong* £1.94½, *Black Tea Caddy* £1.98, *Boy and Mellon* £1.97, *Blue 3 Duck* £2.03½, *Red Crab* £2.03½, *Red Bell* £2.26½/26½, *Blue Dragon and Crown* £2.27, *Blue Dragon and E-wo* £2.41, *Blue Tea Caddy DDD* £2.54, *Blue 2 Tea Caddy JJJ* £2.82, and *Blue 2 Tea Caddy* £2.87½.

10-lbs.—2,100 pieces; *Red Crab* £2.69½, *Red Dragon and 7 Boys* £2.58/58½, *Red Dragon and 6 Women* £2.63½, *Blue Dragon and Shield* £2.69½, *Blue Crab* £2.75½/76½, *Blue Bell* £2.76½/76½, *Blue Dragon and E-wo* £2.77½, *Green Dragon and 5 Men* £2.75, *Blue Tea Caddy DDD* £3.02/02½, and *Blue 2 Tea Caddy* £3.02½.

10½-lbs.—100 pieces; *6 Brothers* £3.39.

11-lbs.—200 pieces; *Blue Dragon and 7 Boys* £3.00½, do. and *5 Men* £3.28½.

12-lbs.—2,640 pieces; *Blue Chief* £2.94½/95, *Man's Face and Bird* £3.10, *Elephant* £3.10½, *Ladder and Gun* £3.11½/11½, *Blue Bell XX* £3.14½/14½, *Bear* £3.25½, *Man and Gun* £3.26½, and *Fisher Boat* £3.56½/57.

12½-lbs.—50 pieces; *Round Phoenix* £3.71½.

White Shirtings.—1,500 pieces; *Painted Phoenix BL* £3.25½, do. *CM* £3.41, do. *DN* £3.49½, do. *EO* £3.80. *Blue Dragon No. 1* £4.10½, *Gold Dragon No. 1* £4.41, *Bat and Peach* £4.18, *Blue 9 Bats* £3.35, *Blue 3 Bats* £3.82½, *Blue Flag and Stamp* £4.11, and *Blue 9 Tigers* £4.52.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—1,475 pieces; *Man and Gong* £1.50½/50½, *Feathers* £1.51½, *Elephant* £1.54½, *Red Tea Caddy* £1.63½/64, *Blue Dragon and Shield* £1.67, do. and *Crown* £1.74½, and *Blue Eagle* £1.62.

Jeans.—8-lbs.—100 pieces; *Tiger and Tree* £2.67/67½.

Sheetings.—14-lbs., 500 pieces; *Double Buffalo Head* £3.00, *Bull's Head* £3.12/12½.

At Yuen-fong, 7th inst.—

Grey Shirtings.—6-lbs.—500 pieces; *Lotus* £0.83½.

7-lbs.—1,125 pieces; *Blue Britannia* £1.94/94½, *Blue 4 Sisters* £1.95, and *Blue 3 Students* £2.07½/07½.

8.4-lbs.—2,615 pieces; *Green 9 Lions* £1.95½/95½, *House* £1.97½, *Double Men* £1.97½, *Blue Britannia* £1.98½, *Blue Dowlle Shield* £2.27½, *Black Gold 3 Students* £2.29½, *Red Emperor's Birthday* £2.33½, *7 Sisters* £2.48½/48½, and *5 Brothers* £2.48½/49½.

10-lbs.—1,200 pieces; *Red Britannia* £2.80½/80½, *Red 3 Students* £2.80½/81½, *Red Emperor's Birthday* £2.88½, *Red 4 Sisters* £2.92, and *Painted 8 Literati* £3.29½.

10.12-lbs.—350 pieces; *Gold Britannia* £3.03½/03½, *Lily* £3.54½.

11-lbs.—400 pieces; *Painted 3 Students* £3.12½/13.

12-lbs.—300 pieces; *New Lions* £3.16½, *Light House* £3.30½, and *Lily* £3.64½/65.

12.12-lbs.—100 pieces; *9 Old Men* £3.91.

13.12-lbs.—100 pieces; *Black Flag Chief* £4.00.

14.12-lbs.—100 pieces; *Gold Sun* £4.35.

White Shirtings.—6.4-reed.—1,250 pieces; *House Bright* £2.30, do. *Dull* £2.27½/27½, *Blue 2 Light House Bright* £2.35½, do. *Dull* £2.29, and *Black Gold 3 Students* £2.65½/66.

7.2-reed.—1,720 pieces; *Red 2 Sisters* *Bright* £2.85½/85½, *Red 2 Light House* *Bright* £2.89, *Red Gold Star* *Bright* £3.10, do. *Dull* £2.98/98½, *Red 8 Stars* *Bright* £3.56½, *Painted 1* *Sisters Dull* £3.12, *Black Flag Chief* £3.50, *Painted Grand Fathers* £3.86½/86½, and *Lily* £3.95½/4.00.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—220 pieces; *Blue 3 Students* £1.47½, *Red Double Shield* £1.67½, and *Red 3 Students* £1.73½.

8-lbs.—100 pieces; *Painted 3 Students* £2.23.

Jeans.—8-lbs.—60 pieces; *Double Squirrel* £2.59.

Sheetings.—14-lbs.—60 pieces; *Old Man Head AA* £3.21½.

Black Cotton Italians.—1,230 pieces; *Loo Loo Tong* £4.45, *Painted 9 Lions* £4.60, *Painted 2 Sisters* £4.70, *Seven Sisters* £4.67½, *9 Brothers* £4.65, *Students* £4.62½, *Painted 18 Literati* £4.90, *5 Brothers* £6.80/85, and *Lily* £6.97½/7.00.

AUCTION SALES OF WOOLLENS DURING THE WEEK

Chops—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Dark Gentian	Gr. & N. Green.	Orange & Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt. Mid.	Sales Pcs.
	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Total.
Camlets.													
Lighthouse, s.s.c. p. pc.	11.95	13.95	11.90	...	12.82½	...	...	...	13.65	...	...	10.17½	
Sales, pcs.	40	10	20	...	10	Pink	...	...	10	...	...	10*	100
9 Old Men, s.s.h. p. pc.	11.32½/35	13.70/72½	11.70/77½	12.42½	...	13.42½	...	...	12.75	12.27½	...	10.05	
Sales, pcs.	160	40	40	20*	...	10	...	...	10	10*	...	10*	300
Man & Horse, p. pc. ...	11.49	...	11.92	12.21	11.59	13.29	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales pcs.	50	...	10	10*	10*	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Goose, p. pc.	11.55	...	...	12.13	...	13.29	...	...	...	...	11.66	...	
Sales pcs.	30	...	...	10*	...	10	...	...	...	...	10	...	60
Long Ells.													
Horse Head, H.D.B. p. pc.	6.95/7.05	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Tiger & Ring, C.P.H. p. pc.	6.86	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Double Phoenix, p. pc. ...	6.92	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Tiger, C.P.H. p. pc.	5.11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Lastings.													
Ship, C.C.R. p. pc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.27½/32½	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	...	...	...	300
9 Old Man, F.F.R. p. pc.	...	...	10.05	...	...	...	...	...	8.10	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	120	...	...	...	140
Dragon, & Phoenix p. pc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.25	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	40
Spanish Stripes.													
9 Old Man, A.A.B. p. yd.	0.65	0.47½	0.67	0.63½	0.65	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	30	6	12	6*	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Single Phoenix, p. yd. ...	0.72. 4	...	0.72.1	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.76	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	6	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	29
Double Phoenix, p. yd. ...	0.71. 1	...	0.71.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	18	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 6th June, 1900, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 125 to 128 both numbers inclusive.

GOODS.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.															
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Ichang & Chungking.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	N'chwang.	Nanking.	Hongkong.	Japan.	Kiaochow.	Corea.	V'atock.
Grey Shirtings 4.....Pcs.	10,608	2860	12,982	1370	1355	10,638		8,543	33,865	6,020	560					7,070
T. Cloth, 32-in.	405	1580	2,270	100	345	660		2,661	2,200		175			355		700
" 36-in.	510				85											350
" Indian, 32 & 36-in.					120			60		500						200
White Shirtings	940	500	1,770	910	830	3,676		3,882	7,730	2,598	50			50		1,500
Drills, English & Indian.			825					75	626				240			450
" Dutch			960			150		760	390	30						300
" American		15	2,145		90	1,350		3,265	10,725	2,175				75		600
Jeans, English & Indian.			100			40			1,460	270						300
" Dutch								100	2,630							200
" American			20					940	2,140							200
Shirtings, English	100	120	3,420	1330	280	600		360	600	1,020	660					600
" Indian					120			100	25							300
" American	120		80			400		16,185	35,685	8,175				220		800
Dyed Cottons					50	50		270	102	220						300
Printed Cottons	120		2,589	551	582	3,512		1,380	6,336	2,183						750
Fancy Woven Cottons			210	130		300		330	954	129						350
Turkey Red Shirtings		325	55	160		855		500	125		25					200
Velvets			30		48					245				50		60
Velveteens										204						30
Handkerchiefs	277		100			1,500	750	200				200				2,000
Muslins			200					800	100							300
Lenon & Balzarines			80					149		100						200
Cotton Yarn, Indian		9	12,12	291	453	2,929	522	78	2,580	1,797	6			120		450
" English			18		6	6		69	84	3	3			15		30
" Japan	71	50	509	110	1965	6,749	374	1,071	560	79				280		120
" Shanghai			12			144			1,440	774						
Spanish Stripes, Woollen Pcs.		6			54			12	48							96
" Cotton			120			24		96	96							72
Medium & Broad Cloth					6			16		6						120
Camlets			10		20	30			10	10						160
Long Ells			20		20	110			40	220						140
Lastings			20			40		30	140	80						120
Italian Cloth	30					60		30	30	210						180
Cotton Lastings & Italians			758	60	319	756		1,500	7,578	2,979				80		800
Cotton Flannels					20				90							100
do, Japan																
Lead-in Figs																
Iron, Nail Rod	21		210	13					210	494						
Kerosine Oil, American Cases	9,900															
" Russian	1,250	400				13,500										

GOODS.	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			to be at date are based on the Chamber of Commerce Returns on 31st Dec. 1899.	
	As above.	For the year from 1st Jan. 1900.	Against last year to same term.	For the week.	For the year from 1st Jan. 1900.	Against last year to same term.	* At date Estimated.	Against 9th June, 1899.
Grey Shirtings 4.....Pcs.	97,761	2,246,167	2,511,977	117,053	2,734,996	2,107,891	1,703,732	911,365
T. Cloth, 32-in.	11,451	345,110	404,050	3,950	303,068	323,954	203,240	240,775
" 36-in.	945	34,521	32,616	517	75,111	47,315	104,765	57,898
" Indian, 32 & 36-in.	880	24,550	16,550	600	8,628	33,449	61,526	68,489
White Shirtings	27,724	923,889	1,006,653	13,511	1,162,042	896,318	706,543	278,813
Drills, Eng. & Indian.	2,216	80,692	87,447	6,875	101,376	62,034	43,549	25,458
" Dutch	2,500	22,295	17,960	1,740	30,863	1,160	22,518	?
" American	20,440	306,460	471,750		495,905	397,631	281,065	217,261
Jeans, Eng. & Indian.	2,170	46,455	39,855	2,820	68,332	25,516	43,308	28,834
" Dutch	2,930	23,870	18,530	280	13,120	13,540	6,220	3,386
" American	3,300	38,350	41,905		64,000	46,040	41,930	6,885
Shirtings, English	9,290	358,281	354,923	10,726	442,010	395,816	153,101	69,235
" Indian	545	37,625	17,770	1,000	21,460	12,240	?	?
" American	61,665	1,244,634	1,657,534		1,461,672	1,571,760	696,918	125,951
Dyed Cotton	992	40,692	48,598	5,227	51,115	29,889	31,015	?
Printed Cottons	18,003	401,478	328,899	30,892	518,289	160,193	327,586	81,469
Fancy Woven Cottons	2,403	70,347	69,254	2,769	74,077	32,120	16,188	18,317
Turkey Red Shirtings	2,475	107,940	117,245	40	150,041	111,678	127,391	34,499
Velvets	583	11,604	7,138	500	21,723	5,756	15,749	5,227
Velveteens	234	4,200	4,916		4,138	362	1,868	6,305
Handkerchiefs	5,087	222,246	188,720	5,894	281,933	200,720	252,418	120,242
Muslins	1,400	52,225	126,360	8,174	122,941	205,332	124,749	113,410
Lenon & Balzarines	440	31,558	39,079	1,386	14,331	86,889	31,909	63,992
Cotton Yarn, Indian	9,747	280,667	354,962	2,568	260,538	392,781	207,068	121,334
" English	234	11,760	13,689	45	6,542	11,226	5,466	4,381
" Japan	11,938	156,679	158,898	2,889	191,622	137,202	58,164	8,037
" Shanghai	2,435	64,434	97,415			?	?	?
Spanish Stripes, Woollen Pcs.	216	7,199	11,723	252	6,360	13,186	9,285	9,257
" Cotton	408	17,857	15,100	239	16,666	12,259	9,811	5,414
Med. & Broad Cloth	148	7,236	8,141	414	8,263	5,484	10,209	8,775
Camlets	240	18,140	14,849	1,310	16,302	14,867	12,462	9,368
Long Ells	550	23,237	23,407	20,60	28,965	16,984	30,013	26,557
Lastings	430	21,285	23,037	1,919	21,356	22,195	20,362	17,974
Italian Cloth	540	24,351	38,569	774	18,732	13,869	13,869	22,096
Cotton Lastings & Italians	14,830	502,471	439,573	43,850	574,229	413,517	239,315	276,716
Cotton Flannels	210	9,236	15,077	73	23,369	8,416	80,844	605
do, Japan		544	1,065		1,380	2,026	7,486	?
Lead-in Figs		2,125	27,236			31,191	16,740	7,958
Iron—Nail Rod	948	29,094	51,567	504	17,347	36,552	37,093	265
Kerosine Oil, American Cases	9,900	681,429	955,050		784,396	838,689	677,000	103
" Russian	15,150	930,152	684,079		1,095,828	776,674	?	?

† Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per Armenia, Indus, Antenor, Nippon Maru, India, Empress of China City of Rio de Janeiro, Oldenburg, Coptic Afghanistan and Laos.

Import Cargoes declared during the interval:—Ballaarat, Socotra, Sachsen, and additional ex Glenartney.